

Klibi sends message to Tokyo summit

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary General Chaddi Klibi sent a message to the Tokyo summit participants saying he hoped they might open up a peace initiative in the Near and Middle East, Arab League sources said Saturday. "Decisions and steps that will be taken in Tokyo will have a great impact on the future of peace, especially in the Mediterranean region and the Middle East," Mr. Klibi said. He hoped the Tokyo summit, which opens on Sunday, would "contribute to starting a process for a relaxation of international relations and open up a peace initiative in the Near and Middle East." Mr. Klibi said Arabs had opted for a global peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict when they adopted the 1982 Fez peace plan, adding: "It is now up to the great powers to face up to their responsibilities if they want to spare the region the worst disasters."

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Happy Easter

The Jordan Times will not be published on Monday, May 5, due to the Easter holiday on Sunday. The next issue of the newspaper will appear on Tuesday, May 6. The Jordan Times wishes its readers and advertisers a very happy Easter.

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Arab stabbed in Gaza City

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — An Arab man was wounded in a stabbing in a bustling marketplace here and an hour later a hand grenade was found near a parked Israeli vehicle, a military source said Saturday. The source, quoted by AP, said the grenade was a type used by the Israeli army and that it did not explode. Security forces were still investigating the motive for the stabbing, said the source. Soldiers clamped a curfew on the marketplace after the grenade discovery, the source said. Witnesses told AP at least 15 showpoppers were taken by police for questioning. The stabbing casualty was identified as an Arab from the Abu Gosh village near Jerusalem who was stabbed in the back of the neck. Palestinian sources identified him as Ahmad Ibrahim Ahmad, 25.

Finnish minister visits UNIFIL unit

BEIRUT (AP) — Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen on Saturday visited his country's 500 soldiers serving with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Mr. Vayrynen inspected the Finnish battalion positions south of the Litani River and held talks with William Callaghan, Irish commander of the nine-nation UNIFIL. UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said Mr. Vayrynen flew to Beirut from Damascus by a Finnish jet. He took a UNIFIL helicopter from Beirut airport to UNIFIL's command in the Lebanese border town of Naqoura.

Taiwanese plane lands in China

PEKING (R) — A Taiwan cargo plane landed in the southern Chinese city Canton on Saturday and the pilot asked to stay in China, the New China News Agency reported. The agency quoted the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) as saying Commander Wang Xijue wanted to be reunited with his family on the mainland. The China Airlines Boeing 747 was on a flight from Bangkok to Taipei with a cargo of tyres, fruit, and miscellaneous goods when it landed at Canton's Baiyun (white cloud) airport. NCNA named the other crew as co-pilot Dong Guangxing and mechanic Qiu Mingzhi. The agency said CAAC had asked China Airlines to send a representative to Peking to discuss how to deal with the plane, cargo and crew.

Thatcher government trailing Labour in poll

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher marks seven years in office this weekend with her government trailing the opposition Labour Party by nearly five per cent, according to a leading monthly opinion poll. But the Conservative government's popularity has increased since the widespread controversy over Mrs. Thatcher's support for the U.S. bombing of Libya last month, according to the Gallup poll commissioned by the British Broadcasting Corporation's Newsnight programme. According to the survey, Mrs. Thatcher's government now had the support of 32.8 per cent of voters, up from 29.9 per cent before the U.S. raid on Libya using planes based in Britain.

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King calls on Arabs to work out housing strategy for occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has called on Arab countries to work out a strategy to deal with the housing problem in the occupied Arab territories.

Arab engineers can help in the process, which would involve Arab funds and specialised financial agencies that can offer credit and finance housing projects for Palestinian people for the sake of enhancing their steadfastness and checking the ever-expanding Israeli settlements that encroach upon Arab land, the King said.

The King was addressing the opening session of the 17th Arab engineering conference held at the Sahab Industrial Estate in the suburbs of Amman.

Housing projects in the Arab World in general, the King said, should take into consideration the increasing population, economic and social changes and the need for industry. But this process requires laying down a unified strategy on financing and operating these projects, he said.

This process, the King added, requires modern technology with special care to avoid waste and luxury, and also proper attention

to vocational training with the purpose of preparing skilled and educated workers and technicians to help in the housing process. The King said development, in its comprehensive concept, means a total change in cultural, social and economic aspects of life in a country and none of these aspects should be neglected in the process of achieving development so that no imbalance can emerge.

For development to be successful, the King said, proper attention should also be given to the training of students at vocational centres and universities so that they later assume the responsibility for development and construction and absorption of technology.

The Arab World, the King added, has vast potentials socially, economically and technically and the planners in general and the engineers in particular have to deal with the task of exploiting these potentials.

The two-day conference is organised by the Arab Engineers Federation (AEF), whose President Mohammad Al Haj made a speech after the inauguration by the King. Mr. Haj's speech was followed by others delivered by Mr. Ibrahim Abu Ayyash, president of the Jordanian Engineers Association, and Mr. Awni Al Masri, the conference's general secretary.

They all voiced appreciation for Jordan's hosting the conference in Amman and spoke about the development of the engineering profession in the Arab World and the AEF's projects and programmes.

Attending the opening session was Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and senior officials and representatives of the public and private sectors.

The conference will be broken up into three seminars to discuss recommendations and special subjects dealing with the work of the federation with particular attention to be given to role which Arab engineers can play in the mining industry and housing projects at reduced cost and means of bolstering cooperation and coordination among engineering unions in the Arab World.



His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and senior officials attend the opening session of the 17th Arab engineers conference in Amman on Saturday (Petra photo)

Syrians call off Baalbek curfew

BEIRUT (AP) — The Syrian army called off a curfew in east Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek on Saturday after patching up a quarrel with pro-Iranian extremists that left two people killed and six others wounded, police reported.

The Syrians, however, maintained checkpoints on all approaches to the city of Roman ruins, 80 kilometres east of Beirut, searching incoming and outgoing cars for arms, police said.

Syrian troops shot it out with militiamen of Hezbollah (Party of God) in the old market quarter of Baalbek Thursday afternoon. Police said the four-hour shootout was sparked by a quarrel over traffic priority between a Syrian soldier and a militiaman.

They discounted reports by rightist radio stations in Beirut that the clash heralded a Syrian army attempt to storm barracks where Hezbollah gunmen were believed to be holding American and French hostages.

The Voice of Lebanon radio of President Amin Gemayel said the Syrian army plans to free the hostages before the summit conference of industrial nations in Tokyo takes up the issue of terrorism.

The radio said the Syrians, who control east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, were preparing an attack on Hezbollah's Sheikh Abdallah hilltop barracks on Baalbek's southeastern outskirts where the hostages were believed held.

But police sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they believe the hostages have long been removed out of the Bekaa and were currently held at the densely populated Shi'ite slums on Beirut's southern edge.

The shadowy Islamic Jihad organisation, believed to be linked to Hezbollah, had claimed it kidnapped five Americans and four Frenchmen in west Beirut in the past two years.

The Lebanese army on Saturday closed down all crossings between west Beirut and the east side of the city after gunmen kidnapped an army officer while he crossed the green line that separates the two sectors, a military communiqué said.

The victim was identified as Capt. Riyad Dughan. The communiqué said he was abducted on the western side of the demarcation line.

The army measure touched off a population rush in west Beirut on groceries, bakeries and gasoline stations to stockpile on food, bread and fuel for fear of shortages because of the shutdown of the crossings.

Militia snipers duelled from shell-pocked high-rise apartment buildings along the five-kilometre green line from dusk Friday to dawn Saturday. Police said two civilians were killed and six others were wounded.

Police also said two bombs went off in west Beirut overnight, destroying two sandwich shops in Hamra and Aishe Bakkar neighbourhoods. No casualties were reported.

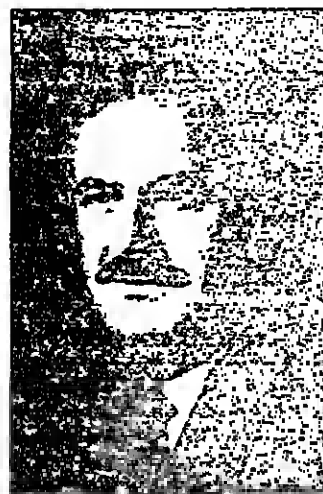
Syrian president arrives tomorrow

AMMAN (J.T.) — President Hafez Al Assad of Syria is expected to pay an official visit to Jordan on Monday, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petra, quoting a spokesman for the Royal Court, said the Syrian leader's visit is in response to an invitation by His Majesty King Hussein. The news agency did not give the duration of President Assad's visit.

The Syrian leader's visit returns one made to Damascus by the King in December last year.

The latest developments and current situation in the Middle East and the Arab World as well as Syrian-Jordanian relations are expected to figure high in talks between the King and President Assad. The Syrian president last visited Jordan in 1978.



Hafez Al Assad

Masri briefs cabinet on outcome of Fez meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet Saturday heard a briefing by Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri on the outcome of the Arab foreign ministers meeting which concluded Thursday night in Fez, Morocco. The Fez meeting, which was held to discuss convening an Arab summit, was adjourned without agreement.

The cabinet also discussed agricultural production in Jordan with special attention given to the production of tomatoes in the Jordan Valley in the current season. The cabinet heard a detailed report on the subject presented by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

In the light of the report the cabinet decided on the following procedures:

First: The Agricultural Mar-

keting and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO). It in the coming few days settle its dues to farmers who have delivered their crops to the company. The AMPCO has paid its dues to farmers up to March 15 and the settlement of payment will therefore cover the period up to May 1.

Second: The tomato paste factory will refutation in the coming few days to absorb all the quantities of tomato which are to be turned into paste and this will to a great extent contribute towards solving farmers' problem.

Third: The Ministry of Agriculture and other concerned departments will pay farmers JD 15 in subsidy for each dunum grown with crops in implementation of the agricultural pattern system.

Waldheim set to win elections despite allegations of Nazi past

VIENNA (R) — Former United Nations chief Kurt Waldheim seems the likely winner in Sunday's Austrian presidential election despite allegations that he was involved in Nazi war crimes. President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger retires in July after two six-year terms in the largely ceremonial post.

Opinion polls suggest that Dr. Waldheim, 67, backed by the Conservative Opposition People's Party (OEPV), will beat former Health Minister Kurt Steyrer, 65, who is supported by the ruling Socialist Party (SPOE).

But ecologist Frieda Meissner-Blau and extreme right winger Otto Scrinzi could force a run-off on June 8.

The New York-based World Jewish Congress (WJC) has accused Dr. Waldheim of being involved in World War II atrocities. Dr. Waldheim denies having belonged to a Nazi group and says he bears no responsibility for war

crimes in the Balkans, where he served between 1942 and 1945 even though his published biography concealed it until this year. Dr. Waldheim and Mr. Steyrer held their last big rallies Friday and made several low-key personal appearances on Saturday in Vienna, where thousands enjoyed an annual festival of dance, music and other free even organised by the OEPV.

All four candidates broadcast final statements on Saturday. Dr. Waldheim appealed to voters to spare Austria five more weeks of campaigning so that he might direct his energies to its moral renewal.

Ms. Meissner-Blau, whose vote may be boosted by the Soviet nuclear accident, said she was an alternative to what she called disgusting power politics.

Top Soviet leaders visit nuclear disaster area; human error blamed for accident

Combined agency dispatches

TWO SENIOR officials of the Soviet Communist Party politburo visited the area of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster on Saturday and met people who had been evacuated from the immediate vicinity and discussed ways of speeding up rescue work, the Soviet news agency TASS reported.

The visit of Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and Kremlin number two Yegor Ligachev came a few hours after another senior official said human error was to be blamed for the disaster.

French experts said two people killed in the disaster probably died not from radioactive contamination but when firefighters threw water on the smouldering reactor, triggering an explosion.

TASS did not say how near Mr. Ryzhkov and Mr. Wjachev went to the stricken power plant on Saturday and gave no more details

of casualties. Moscow says only two people were killed and 197 injured, 18 of them seriously. Western experts believe the accident to be the worst in the history of nuclear power.

The TASS report followed Friday's move onto the offensive against Western media coverage of the accident.

It said work to eliminate the breakdown and its consequences was being conducted "in an organised way," adding that "decisions were taken on additional measures to expedite the work," but did not elaborate.

A junior politburo member, Boris Yeltsin, said in West Germany on Friday it was too dangerous for people to enter the radioactive zone.

Mr. Yeltsin told West German television that radioactivity around the Chernobyl plant had fallen considerably but was still around 200 roentgen an hour.

According to standard reference works, 200 roentgen can be fatal. He also accused the western press of deliberately producing "horror stories" over the affair to discredit the Soviet Union.

Mr. Yeltsin also said human error was to blame for the plant disaster, which has contaminated water supplies and forced the continued evacuation of nearby settlements because of dangerous levels of radioactivity.

In the first detailed Soviet description of the disaster and its aftermath, Mr. Yeltsin told the ARD national television network that the area around the plant 140 kilometres north of Kiev remained sealed off.

He also said authorities were using helicopters to drop sacks of sand, lead and boron to cut down emissions of radioactivity from the crippled plant to a minimum.

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He also said authorities were using helicopters to drop sacks of sand, lead and boron to cut down emissions of radioactivity from the crippled plant to a minimum.

"There is still radioactivity in the zone and people may not go back (at this time)," Mr. Yeltsin said. He did not specify the size of the area.

An unspecified number of residents from four "settlements" were evacuated immediately after the accident, Mr. Yeltsin said, adding: "No one was exposed to radiation."

Leading French nuclear experts said Friday two people killed in the Chernobyl disaster probably died not from radioactive contamination but when Soviet firefighters threw water on the smouldering reactor, triggering an explosion.

Pierre Tanguy, head of nuclear safety and security for the state-run electricity board, told reporters Soviet reports of only two dead and 197 people injured were plausible.

(Continued on page 3)

21 killed, 41 injured in blast aboard Sri Lankan airliner

COLOMBO (Agencies) — At least 21 people were killed and 41 injured on Saturday when a bomb believed planted by Tamil separatists ripped through an Air Lanka airliner full of tourists at Colombo airport, state radio said.

"The majority of the casualties are foreigners," a National Security Ministry spokesman said.

The TriStar — which arrived from London by way of Zurich and Dubai earlier Saturday morning — burst into flames. One witness quoted by Renter said the blast wrecked the rear 10 rows of seats.

Airline officials said 128 people, most holidaymakers going to

the Maldives, were booked on the flight.

Take-off had been delayed and it was not clear how many people were on board when the blast tore the TriStar apart about five minutes before it was due to leave.

A witness told Renter he saw 11 foreigners who were injured. One girl looked Japanese and the others appeared to be Europeans.

The United News of India (UNI) quoted sources at the airport as saying there were suspicions of sabotage by Tamil militants seeking a separate homeland in Sri Lanka.

The national news agency Lan-

kapuvath, quoting security sources, said the time bomb was planted in the tail of the aircraft.

UNI quoted officials as saying at least 26 people were killed. No-one claimed responsibility for the blast but the security ministry spokesman said: "We suspect that a bomb was planted by Tamil terrorists. A high-level investigation has been launched."

The state radio said some passengers were boarding and others were already in their seats when the bomb exploded, sending black smoke through the craft.

An injured passenger told reporters that he had not yet taken his

(Continued on page 3)

Reagan and Nakasone agree to discuss 'terrorism' and Soviet mishap in summit

TOKYO (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone agreed on Saturday that "terrorism" and the Soviet nuclear disaster should be discussed at the Tokyo summit.

But the two leaders made no headway on the yen-dollar upheaval that is battering Japan's export industries (See page 7).

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Nakasone met for an hour to discuss bilateral issues and the seven-nation summit which begins on Sunday. Others at the meeting included U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

The officials said Mr. Nakasone was "deeply concerned" about the Soviet nuclear accident, particularly the question of releasing information on the mishap. Mr.

Reagan said his weekly radio report to the American people, which he had just recorded, expressed similar concerns.

Mr. Nakasone said he wanted to take up the issue at the three-day summit, said the officials.

Other officials said Mr. Nakasone also told the president he sympathised with the U.S. decision to bomb Libya and that he hoped the summit would decide on new ways to combat "terrorism."

A senior U.S. official quoted Mr. Nakasone as saying this was "perhaps the most important topic to be discussed at the summit."

No details emerged from the talks about what form the action could take.

Italy — attending the summit along with the United States, Japan, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany — has made

plain it would oppose economic sanctions against Libya.

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi also met Mr. Reagan on Saturday. Italian officials said the U.S. president asked why Italy could not reduce its oil purchases from Libya.

Mr. Craxi replied that Italy would not impose any economic sanctions but would not grant Libya any favours.

However, the officials quoted Mr. Craxi as saying that under certain circumstances Italy might consider shooting first against Libya — for example, if a Libyan plane was approaching Italy and did not respond to radio messages.

In Moscow, the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda said the United States was trying to force the six other countries at the Tokyo summit to adopt a common stance against Libya.

Iraq repels Iranian attack

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Saturday its forces repelled an Iranian ground attack on positions it had captured in the south-central sector of the Gulf war front on Wednesday.

A military spokesman said two Iranian army brigades were destroyed in the infantry and artillery battle, and that large quantities of arms and ammunition were captured.

The Iranian News Agency IRNA also reported heavy fighting in the area, claiming that its troops staged a big overnight raid near the border town of Fuka, killing 1,700 Iraqis.

Iraq said Friday night its troops had killed or wounded 2,730 Iraqis last Wednesday in a push into Iranian territory near Fuka, east of the Baghdad-Basra highway and north of the cross-border Hawizah Marshes.

The Wednesday advance was the first time Iraq had reported capturing Iranian territory since it announced it had pulled its troops back to the border in mid-1982.

Iraq and Iran have been at war since September 1980.

Iraq said the overnight Iranian attack was against the Iraqi ground troops seized on Wednesday.

Tehran reported air strikes on Iraqi positions for two days prior to Friday night's battle, some 340 kilometres south east of Baghdad.

The area, the scene of two major Iranian offensives in early 1983, lies north of the Hawizah Marshes where fighting has been reported in recent months for the man-made Majnoon Islands, built up to exploit rich underground oil reserves.

Fighting was also reported in northern Iraq, where pro-Iranian Kurdish guerrillas said Friday they had repulsed a big government offensive against their bases in the mountainous region.

A spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) said the action was not related to the 5-6-year-old Gulf war, but was part of the long and continuing struggle by Kurds against Baghdad.

Both Iran and Iraq have reported actions against autoarmy-seeking Kurdish guerrillas on each side of the border during the war.

Nearly 200 ships attacked

In London Lloyds Intelligence Department said Friday at least 197 ships have been attacked in the Gulf in the five years since Iran and Iraq began hitting merchant shipping in the waterway.

The Saudi Arabian tanker Al Safaniya, which was attacked by Iranian aircraft Thursday, was the latest named vessel to be hit since May 1981 when the warring countries extended hostilities to ships in the Gulf, Lloyds said.

Most of the reported attacks have been carried out by Iraq in an attempt to cut off Iranian oil exports which finance Tehran's war effort against Baghdad, shipping sources said.

In addition to the vessels hit in air and missile attacks, 75 ships abandoned by their owners since the start of the Gulf war in September 1980 have been trapped in the Shatt Al Arab waterway separating Iran and Iraq.

Meanwhile crewmen of Al Safaniya affirmed Saturday that their ship was raided by an Iranian jet fighter in the southern sector of the Gulf waters, where a British captain and two Pakistani sailors were killed.

The warplane fired two rockets on Al Safaniya and the 38-year-old Capt. David Lycey suffered shrapnel injuries in the first rocket blast, said one crewman, reached in Abu Dhabi by telephone from Bahrain.

He said that Capt. Lycey was killed in the second rocket explosion, as he was on the bridge trying to get his 31 crewmen to abandon ship. The crew comprised 11 Britishers, including Capt. Lycey, and 21 Pakistanis.

"I personally was in the television room when the first boom sounded and everything fell on my body, but when I rushed out my companions were shouting that an Iranian plane hit our ship," Ali Roshanali, the 32-year-old quartermaster of the vessel, told the Associated Press in the telephone interview.

Roshanali, a Pakistani from Karachi, was speaking from his hospital bed in Abu Dhabi. Six crewmen were treated there for injuries suffered in the attack, which took place on Thursday at a point 16 kilometres south west of the United Arab Emirates island of Sir Baniya.

Five of the injured, one of them with a shrapnel cut in his face, were Pakistani. The sixth was a British identified as Third Officer Sean David O'Toole.

Capt. Lycey would be the first British victim of an Iranian attack in the so-called tanker war, an offshoot of the 67-month-old Iran-Iraq conflict.

Two British officers and three divers were killed late 1984, the first year of the tanker war, by Iraqi raids on merchant ships in the Gulf waters.

The British Foreign Office had launched a protest with the Iraqi government at that time, and on Friday an office spokesman said in London that the government

would do likewise when it learns who carried out the attack.

"We deplore any attacks on merchant ships in the Gulf," said the British spokesman, who spoke on condition he was not identified.

Al Safaniya, the second Saudi tanker to be attacked by Iranian warplanes in the southern neutral sector of the Gulf waters in less than a month, was sailing to the Saudi Gulf terminal of Ras Tanura to lift a shipment of crude oil.

Iraq attacks vessels along Iranian shipping lanes in the war zone at the head of the Gulf waterway, and Iran retaliates by attacking ships south of the war zone.

"We are not part of the war, we are not guilty, we come to the Gulf for a job, why are the Iranians attacking us?" Roshanali asked.

"One of my two Pakistani companions was killed as he was praying because he is a good Muslim, and the other was sleeping," said Roshanali describing how the first rocket attack was aimed directly at the ship's accommodation quarters, turning it into rubble.

"It was all flames and heaps of rubbish, and the captain was shouting at us to rush out and save our lives. He was wounded in the head in that first attack," said Roshanali.

The captain then went to the bridge and told the ones working there: "You go save your lives. I am here, don't worry." They left him and suddenly the second rocket struck the bridge and he died," added Roshanali.

He and his companions fought the blaze for four hours till they extinguished it and a tugboat and helicopter began arriving to help them.

"When I went to the bridge, all I could see was the head of our dead captain from under the rubbish (debris)," Roshanali said.

Libyan TV shows 2nd U.S. flier's helmet

LONDON (AP) — Libyan state television showed pictures of what it said was the second American flier's helmet to be washed up on a beach this week following the U.S. bombing raids on April 15.

The television, monitored in Britain, showed a battered white helmet lying upside down in a pool. The accompanying commentary said the helmet was washed ashore on the beach at Tripoli. Tall buildings were visible in the background.

"Today we present another example of the remains of the body of one of the American pilots whose aircraft was destroyed while attempting to raid our free land," the commentary said.

"The sea has washed this helmet ashore at the shores of Tripoli city after our air defences were able to shoot down the aircraft," it said.

The helmet was then shown in close-up from various angles. The inscription "MPA-M" was clearly visible on the crown.

On Thursday night, the television showed pictures of a helmet bearing the name "Lorenz" on the browpiece that it said was found by coast guards on Wednesday on the beach at Zawiya, some 40 kilometres west of Tripoli.

Earphones and an oxygen mouthpiece were attached.

An F-111 fighter-bomber which took part in the raid was lost. The U.S. Air Force identified the two dead crewmen as Capt. Paul Lorenz, 31, and Capt. Fernando Ribas-Dominicci, 33. Both were based at the U.S. air base at Lakenheath in eastern England.

Meanwhile two U.S. aircraft carriers were sailing in the central Mediterranean north of Libya, but sources said Friday that they are conducting routine flight operations and remaining well away from the Libyan coastline.

The nuclear-powered Enterprise, ordered away from its normal patrol station in the Indian Ocean, sailed through the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean earlier this week and linked up with the Coral Sea on Friday.

One Pentagon official, who requested anonymity, said it appeared likely the Coral Sea, which is long overdue to be relieved, would be allowed to sail for the U.S. next week.

"There's nothing dramatic happening in the Med," said one official. "We have three carriers there now, but one will probably start home next week and there

are no orders to form a battle group."

A third carrier now in the region, the America, is still in port in Naples, Italy, on a liberty call. The sources said it probably will leave late Sunday or early Monday to participate in a scheduled NATO exercise in the Mediterranean.

Planes from The America and Coral Sea joined air force bombers on April 15 in striking five targets inside Libya. President Ronald Reagan said he ordered the raid after determining that Libya was responsible for a terrorist bombing attack on a West Berlin nightclub frequented by American servicemen.

British defence sources said Saturday Britain will dismantle ground-to-air missiles installed on Gibraltar during the conflict between the United States and Libya because the crisis in the Mediterranean has abated.

The Rapier missiles were installed in April to defend the British rock colony against Libyan threats to attack NATO bases in the Mediterranean.

The sources said they would be dismantled and flown back to Britain next week.

Italians blame Qadhafi

In Rome, more than half the Italians questioned in a newspaper survey published Saturday considered Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi the mastermind behind attacks.

But only seven per cent of the 1,585 people questioned for the daily La Repubblica said they supported military reprisals for Libya's failed missile attack on the southern Italian island of Lampedusa.

Two missiles fired by Libya in retaliation for U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Benghazi last month failed to reach Lampedusa and exploded in the sea.

The survey showed that 72 per cent of those questioned favoured diplomatic moves to try to restore peace after the Lampedusa attack, the newspaper said.

Asked if Col. Qadhafi was "the mind behind terrorism," 56.6 per cent said yes and 23 per cent said they did not know.

Thirty-eight per cent considered President Reagan's decision to launch the air raids on Libya "a show of strength." Thirty-five per cent said they thought it "provocative" and 19 per cent "a fitting punishment."

New trinity heads life in Socialist Ethiopia

By Michael Fathers
Reuters

ADDIS ABABA — There is a new trinity in the former Christian empire of Ethiopia — Marx, Engels and Lenin.

Portraits of the three founders of revolutionary Communism adorn Addis Ababa and are the symbols of change which has taken place since a group of young soldiers overthrew Emperor Haile Selassie in September 1974.

Despite the trappings of institutionalised Communism and an ideology borrowed from Moscow, the soldiers who rule the country are behaving no differently from the emperors and feudal chiefs of Ethiopia's past, some diplomats say.

First among equals is Mengistu Haile Mariam whom diplomats describe as an austere, ruthless and dedicated man who genuinely wants to improve the lot of his countrymen.

His titles rival those of the late emperor.

Mengistu is general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia, the vanguard movement he founded to give legitimacy to his government, head of its politburo, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, chairman of the council of ministers and commander in chief of the armed forces.

Haile Selassie was king of kings, Lion of Judah, some 20th-plus descendant from King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, and commander in chief.

Haile Selassie was bundled from power into a Volkswagen beetle and died in unknown circumstances a senile man in his 80s a year later.

Eleven members of his family who were in the country have been in Addis Ababa's Akaki (end of

the world) goal ever since.

"Incarcerating your opponents and rivals, outwitting and as a last resort killing your enemies is how Ethiopia has always been ruled," one long-serving Western diplomat in Addis Ababa said. "This is a harsh authoritarian country run by tough soldiers. You either obey orders or get knocked into shape."

Haile Selassie's palace is used as a guest house for visiting dignitaries. Of the menagerie of wild beasts that once roamed the grounds as a symbol of the emperor's majesty, only a tortoise survives. It is now chewing its way through 40 acres (16 hectares) of pasture, and garden that comprise the compound of the British legation.

At the bottom of the hill from the palace is a huge open space called Revolution Square where you will find the biggest group portrait of Marx, Engels and Lenin.

Walking there one Saturday afternoon I was rescued from a horde of child beggars by a Muslim called Omar who chased them away with stones.

Omar took me to an exhibition centre nearby which was the newest entertainment in the city. Pavilions devoted to culture, industry, agriculture and defence proclaimed the achievements of Ethiopian Communism. They were all closed.

"Wickedness of government" Later, at the central market, Omar complained about the wickedness of the government, that it was interfering too much in people's lives, that it crushed initiative, taxes were too heavy and anyone who criticised it was thrown into jail.

Telling me this, he said, made him so upset and nervous that he



had to stop and buy a cigarette. He then asked me for \$15 to take his girlfriend to a fictitious dinner-dance at the national stadium that night. He said Mengistu, whom he described as the Communist emperor, would be there to celebrate ties between Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

On nearby Jomo Kenyatta Road the city's whorers were as active as ever they were during the empire.

The Tedj Houses, named after the mead which Ethiopians have drunk for centuries, are small beer shops open to the street where women serve drinks and provide other services for a fee.

For those with more money there are private houses nearby where well-mannered and snarlingly dressed girls pour whisky for gentlemen seated in armchairs. The setting is neat and formal, like the front parlour of a middle-class villa in a prim London suburb.

The respectable atmosphere is destroyed by the appearance of a minstrel and his companion who teach the girls with amharic love songs that go on and on and require a response from the prostitutes.

People don't talk much in Tedj Houses nowadays. There are too many government spies.

Strong security network

Helped by East Germany, the government has set up a formidable security network that spreads through all sections of society.

The basic unit is the Kebele, a neighbourhood organisation controlled between 1,000 and 3,000 people. It issues coupons for subsidised food and controls where and how people work and live. It gives permission to travel and to receive visitors from outside.

The hand of authority has now spread to clothing. All government workers have to wear a tunic and trousers modelled on Mao suits, although officials in China no longer prefer them.

Civil servants who refuse to give up their Western clothes have been told their promotion prospects will suffer.

The suits come in khaki and blue and look like a cleaner's overalls. The regime says blue is the colour of peace.

Lebanon peace prospects remain bleak

BEIRUT (R) — Despite a flurry of peace feelers this week, Lebanese leaders say prospects for an end to 11 years of street fighting, car bombing, shelling and kidnapping are as remote as ever.

Peace negotiations between Falangists and the opposition have been frozen since fighting shattered a Syrian-backed militia agreement last January.

Since then, some 800 people have been killed and even Vatican efforts to mediate between supporters and opponents of the pact have not borne fruit.

"We are going round in a vicious circle," Sunni Muslim Prime Minister Rashid Karami lamented this week.

Lebanon's plight has worsened with kidnappings that last month provoked an exodus of Westerners, including ceasefire observers and diplomats, and created new despondency among Lebanese.

"The political scene is frozen. There have been no tangible efforts to break the deadlock," said a Muslim political source.

Mr. Karami, one of several leaders who backed the pact in opposition to Christian President Amin Gemayel, held talks in Damascus this week on peace appeals from two religious leaders.

There was no official word on the outcome, but diplomatic sources said Syria had reacted coolly to the pleas, and to a ceasefire call by the Lebanese Forces militia.

Lebanon's Sunni Muslim Mufti, Sheikh Hassan Khaled, and Maronite Christian Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir had urged factions to stop fighting and start talking.

NEWS ANALYSIS

In response, the Lebanese Forces announced a unilateral ceasefire from midnight last Tuesday and called for Lebanese observers to monitor a truce. But bullets continued to fly across battlelines in and around Beirut.

Diplomatic sources quoted Syrian officials as saying Damascus had spared no effort to bring about reconciliation, but their peace drive had been thwarted by Mr. Gemayel.

Syria has regularly accused the United States and Israel of engineering the pact's collapse to weaken Syrian influence.

Mr. Gemayel and Falangist militiamen, feeling greater Syrian control, reject the pact, which would have given the Muslim majority bigger say in government. The accord fell apart in January when rebels ousted in

Portugal to expel 4 Libyans

LISBON (R) — The Portuguese government has decided to expel four members of the Libyan diplomatic mission, the Foreign Ministry said.

The remaining five Libyan mission members would be restricted to a 50 kilometre radius from the capital, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The decision was taken "within the framework of political cooperation between member states of the European Community," he added.

The move effectively reduces by half the Libyan representation, as one official currently absent from the mission would not be permitted to return, he said.

The spokesman said Friday the situation regarding other Libyans in Portugal was under consideration by the government.

According to the government there are 20 Libyans in Portugal, 10 in the mission of whom five have diplomatic status. A number of Libyan student pilots are attending a course at a private aviation school just outside Lisbon.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773.11.19	23:00 News Summary 23:57 News Headline 24:00 Close down
PROGRAMME ONE	
16:00 Koran	
16:20 Children's Cartoons	
16:45 Arabic programmes	
17:45 Arabic documentary	
18:10 Local programme	
18:40 Arabic Series	
19:30 News programme on Jordan	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:35 A special programme on the occasion of World Traffic Day	
21:15 Arabic series	
22:00 Varieties programme	
23:00 News Summary in Arabic	
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30 French film: 'Cade' a vie	
19:15 News in French	
19:30 French varieties	
19:50 News in Hebrew	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Mc and My Girl	
21:10 The World Challenge	
21:50 News in English	
22:20 The Masses	
RADIO JORDAN 85.1 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM A partly on 94.0 KHz, SW Tel: 774.11.19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 Newsweek	
08:00 Morning Show	
10:00 News Summary	
10:45 Pop Session	
12:00 News Summary	
12:45 Pop Session Contd.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:45 Pop Session Contd.	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:10 Instruments	
14:15 Science Report	
15:00 Concert Hour	
16:00 News Summary	
16:45 Instruments	
16:50 Old Favourites	
17:00 Listeners' Choice	
18:00 News Summary	
18:45 Newsweek	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
21:00 News Summary	
21:45 Evening Show Contd.	
21:55 News Summary	
22:00 Evening Show Contd.	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES	
* Easter Sunday: 11:30 a.m. Holy Communion. 6:30 p.m. Evensong at the Church of the Redeemer in Jabal Anman.	
EXHIBITIONS	
* Alan Mabey poster exhibition at the British Council (until May 7).	
* Soviet book exhibition at the Holiday Inn Hotel (until May 8).	
* A local book exhibition at Mu'at University in Karak (until May 7).	
CIRCUS	
Romanian State Circus daily at Al Hussein Sports City.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	
American Centre 644371	
British Council 6361476	
French Cultural Centre 637009	
Goethe Institute 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049	
Haya Arts Centre 639777	
Hayan Youth City 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 644251	
Amman Municipal Library 637111	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaic from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Clayed Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:16 Fajr	
11:49 (Sunrise)	
12:33 Dhur	
16:13 'Asr	
19:21 Maghrib	
20:50 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, Tel. 081.53200, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
03:30 Bucharest (RO)	
04:00 Berlin (DE)	
04:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (AE)	
05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (MY)	
06:30 Seoul (KR)	
07:30 Bangkok (TH)	
08:30 Baghdad, London (BA)	
09:00 Cairo (EG)	
09:15 Athens, Damascus (GR)	
10:00 New York, Amsterdam (NL)	
10:30 Paris, Brussels (FR)	
11:00 Athens (GR)	
11:30 London (UK)	
12:00 Rome, Madrid (IT)	
13:00 Frankfurt (LH)	
14:00 Baghdad (BA)	
15:00 Frankfurt, Geneva (LH)	
16:00 London (BA)	
17:00 Cairo (EG)	
18:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	
19:45 Athens, Damascus (GR)	
20:00 New York, Amsterdam (NL)	
20:30 Paris, Brussels (FR)	
21:00 Athens (GR)	
21:30 London (UK)	
22:00 Rome, Madrid (IT)	
23:00 Frankfurt (LH)	
24:00 Baghdad (BA)	
25:00 Frankfurt, Geneva (LH)	
26:00 London (BA)	
27:00 Cairo (EG)	
28:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	
29:45 Athens, Damascus (GR)	
30:00 New York, Amsterdam (NL)	
30:30 Paris, Brussels (FR)	
31:00 Athens (GR)	
31:30 London (UK)	
32:00 Rome, Madrid (IT)	
33:00 Frankfurt (LH)	

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hamzeh heads for Geneva

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh left for Geneva Saturday at the head of an official Jordanian delegation to attend the meetings of the executive bureau of the Arab health ministers council and the 39th session of the World Health Organisation (WHO). Dr. Hamzeh said that the Jordanian delegation will take part in a study on the world health situation and the health conditions in the occupied Arab territories. Also to be discussed will be Israel's refusal to receive a WHO fact-finding mission. The minister added that the session will discuss support for national strategies for health for all in the least developed countries. The health needs for Central America and Panama will also be among the topics to be discussed during the two-day meetings, Dr. Hamzeh added.

Jordan marks traffic day today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will celebrate World Traffic Day and the start of Arab Traffic Week today. A celebration will be held at the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan during which Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed will deliver a speech and will present prizes and gifts to a number of citizens who have made positive contributions towards reducing road accidents. Governorates and district governorates in the country will also mark this occasion during the period May 4-10.

Husseini returns from Arabsat meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Private Arab and Islamic organisations will be allowed to use the Arab satellites for telecommunications and the board of directors of the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation will decide on applications in this respect, Minister of Communications Muhiuddin Al Husseini announced Saturday upon returning to Amman from Algiers where the Arabsat general assembly meeting was held. The assembly also elected Abdul Qader Bu'iri as general director of the organisation to succeed Ali Al Mashut who was relieved from his post last year, the minister added. He said that the assembly discussed means of improving the organisation's services and approved a general budget for 1986 (see related story page 7).

Kana'an meets W. German parliamentarians

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an and members of the economic cooperation committee of the West German Lower House of Parliament (Bundstag) Saturday reviewed Jordan's five-year development plan. Dr. Kana'an also reviewed the economic cooperation programme between Jordan and West Germany as well as the trade balance between the two countries. The minister requested that the West German contribution to Jordanian development projects be increased.

Cultural attaches visit Mu'ta

KARAK (Petra) — A group of cultural counsellors at Arab embassies in Amman Saturday paid a visit to Mu'ta University in Karak where they met with the university's president, Dr. Ali Mahafzah who briefed them on the university's development, educational policy, its capacity and its future plans. The counsellors also toured the university's various sections and installations.

Symposium on salt production in Arab states opens today

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day symposium on salt production in the Arab World is due to open at the Amra Hotel in Amman on Sunday. Nearly 100 participants from Arab countries, specialised Arab organisations and foreign companies will discuss 25 working papers on the production of salt and salt deposits as well as ways of estimating these deposits, extracting and processing salt in the Arab World.

Jordan's delegation will submit three working papers on salt production in the Lisan area, south of the Dead Sea, where the Arab Potash Company produces caustic soda and chlorine from salt.

Youths drown in Irbid lake

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two young people, aged 17 and 16, drowned in a lake at Masha'ra in Irbid Governorate, according to a report in the local press on Saturday. The two were identified as Mohammad Fala'h Ali and Mohammad Mahmoud Mousa from Kafr Awan. They were taken to hospital but pronounced dead upon arrival, the report said. The newspaper quoted local officials as warning the public against swimming in canals, water holes, lakes or dams.

Another report in the local

Arab experts discuss agricultural credit

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab World possesses vast agricultural potential and would be able to ensure food security through the proper exploitation of water and soil by using modern technology, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi said Saturday.

He said that despite these vast potential, the Arab World still lags behind other world nations while the population growth continues and the demand for more food and agricultural crops increases unabated.

Dr. Lawzi, who was addressing a three-day symposium on agricultural credit and financing in the Arab World, said that while the population grows at three per cent annually, the overall agricultural production increases by only 2.2 per cent. He said that during the 1970's and the early 1980's the demand for food supplies increased by 4.5 per cent and the Arab World continues to import food worth \$21.3 billion while producing \$3 billion worth of its food requirements annually.

The traditional obstacles impeding efforts to increase food production are the scarcity of water, unfavourable weather conditions



Ministry of Agriculture Undersecretary Salem Al Lawzi (Centre) and AOAD Regional Director Dr. Abdul Hamid Al Kayed (right) listen to proceedings during the first day of a symposium on agricultural credit and financing in the Arab World (Petra photo)

and lack of agricultural land but these obstacles could be offset by utilising modern technology, Dr. Lawzi said. Water can be stored through building dams and more water resources could be exploited by drilling artesian wells, he said. All types of new developments and agrotechnology could be employed to help the Arab Nation achieve food security, Dr. Lawzi added.

He said that Arab countries invest only 12 per cent of total Arab investments in agriculture while the rest goes to other economic and social sectors.



Her Royal Highness Princess Alia, deputising for His Majesty King Hussein, presided over the opening of a files factory in Russeifa on Saturday. The factory was built for the Friendship Society for the Blind. Princess Alia also awarded prizes to those individuals who contributed to the success of the project and lauded the various sections of the factory (Petra photo).

New director appointed for Ma'in spa, resort project

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Fayez Abu Al Ghanam has been appointed director general of the Ma'in spa project of May 3 and construction work at the project site is expected to restart within the next few weeks, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that the decision to appoint Mr. Abu Al Ghanam was made by the project's board of directors and Petra added that the new director general took office on Saturday.

Work at the project site was suspended due to a lack of funds and one official earlier stated that construction would resume sometime between June and September, after the managing company had secured a syndicated loan of JD 3 million and after the project's capital had been raised from JD 2.2 million to JD 5 million.

Deputy General of the Jordan Tourism and Spa Company (JTSC) Michael Masannat told the Jordan Times that the com-

plex, where work was suspended in October 1984, was expected to start receiving patients and tourists one year after construction resumed.

According to Mr. Masannat, the overall cost of the complex was initially estimated at nearly JD 13 million, JD 6 million of which was raised and spent on completing approximately 60 per cent of the project.

The JD 7 million needed to complete the project will be raised through JD 3 million in bonds, to be floated through a syndicate of banks, and the remainder of the amount will be secured by raising the capital and through a loan agreement with a Belgian firm, Mr. Masannat said.

The loan will be repaid over a period of 20 years with a three-year grace period and at an interest rate of three per cent.

Established on an area of 1,470 dunums, the Ma'in spa will provide physiotherapy and spa treatment for patients mainly neurology patients and people with respiratory problems.

Ministry official returns from seminar on cereal production

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi returned to Amman from Damascus on Saturday after representing Jordan at a symposium on developing the production of wheat and barley in the Arab World.

He said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that participants discussed the results of a cereal production project, implemented between 1981 and 1985 and which was carried out in 14 agricultural research stations in a number of Arab countries involved in the project.

The participants all emphasised that wheat and barley gave good yields in semi-arid regions around

the Arab World and that certain varieties of the cereals have already been adopted for growing in Syria, Algeria and Jordan, Dr. Lawzi said.

The symposium, he added, stressed the need for adopting modern techniques in the process of producing wheat and barley and recommended certain methods for preserving humidity, ways of eliminating weeds and carrying out research on improving production.

Among its recommendations, the symposium called on Arab countries to continue growing strains of legumes and cereals which give high yields and which are adapted to dry conditions.

Conference calls for active campaign to support AUB

AMMAN (Petra) — The second conference for supporting the American University of Beirut (AUB) concluded in Amman on Friday and called for organising a campaign among university graduates to collect \$1.5 million to support the university.

The conference also recommended that a special committee be set up to follow up on the resolutions of the first and second conferences and to intensify awareness campaigns about the university's activities.

AUB Assistant President Nazeem Zaidan said that life at the university is normal and that the AUB has not sustained any danger, despite the tragic situation in Lebanon.

Thirty Arab graduates from various Arab countries took part in the conference.

From Arab funds and Arab governments which, he said, should do all they can to promote agricultural production and development.

Exploiting natural resources

Another speaker was Dr. Abdul Hamid Al Kayed, regional director of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) who urged Arab countries to exploit water and other natural resources for the sake of achieving economic and political integration within the Arab Nation. Financing Arab agricultural projects, he said, has become one of the most important issues because credit lies at the root of development, Dr. Kayed said. The Arab summit meeting held in Amman in 1980 decided to allocate \$5 billion for developing Arab countries but unfortunately the political and economic events that followed obstructed the implementation of that decision, Dr. Kayed continued.

The three-day symposium will review a number of working papers dealing with credit for agricultural operations in the Arab World. The symposium is organised by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development.

Pharmaceutical industries open talks on drug marketing

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) opened a three day symposium in Amman Saturday to discuss coordinating the work of pharmaceutical industries in the Arab World and dealing with the problem of marketing Arab medicine, whether locally produced or drugs manufactured under licence.

The symposium was opened by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Among the main speakers at the first session was the under secretary of the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Dr. Saleh Al Amir, who underlined the importance of medicine security for the Arab World and the need to provide capital to help in the transfer of technology for the manufacture of drugs.

Another speaker was ACDIMA Director General Muwaffa Haddadin who referred to the subjects to be discussed and the importance of pharmaceutical industries.

Mr. Nizar Jandaneh, president of the Arab Federation of Producers of Medical Appliances and Drugs, said that Arab pharmaceutical industries should be developed if they wish to ensure Arab security in medical appliances and drugs. This symposium, he said, will discuss the possibility of utilising primary materials found in the Arab World in pharmaceutical industries and means of extracting primary materials from local herbs.

The symposium will also discuss specifications for water used in pharmaceutical industries, ways of treating wastewater and packing and storing drugs of all kinds. Leading pharmaceutical specialists in the Arab World are taking part in the symposium.

After the opening ceremony, Dr. Muasher opened an exhibition of Arab pharmaceutical products produced by countries participating in the symposium.

Congress urges joint efforts to liberate Jerusalem, maintain sanctity of religious sites

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Islamic Congress for Bait Al Maqdis has called for joint Islamic-Christi efforts to deal with Zionist conspiracies designed to exploit religion and religious relations to serve Zionist purposes and plans.

The call was made by the chairman of the congress, Mr. Kamel Al Sharif, at a symposium on Jerusalem affairs which opened at Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman on Saturday.

Mr. Sharif, a former minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, said that the Zionist movement's seizure of Jerusalem and the whole of Palestine represents a grave danger and a threat to peace and security in the Islamic world. This occupation demonstrates the Zionist aim to expand and seek vengeance and also illustrates the Zionist alliance with the colonial powers, working within the framework of an aggressive plan designed to keep the Islamic world backward and impeding all attempts for its development and at the same time seeking to plunder this nation's wealth, Mr. Sharif said.

"Our duty should be to focus the Islamic world's attention on all issues related to faith and the need to save Jerusalem should serve as a central issue in this respect," Mr. Sharif stressed.

He said that the Islamic world is at present in need of mobilising its efforts and stepping up its endeavours for the sake of saving Jerusalem, which he said is the most important issue of all.

Israeli settlements

Mr. Sharif said that Muslims should not overlook the on-going process of building Israeli settlements on Palestinian land and should not overlook the significance of the recent Zionist rally held in the heart of occupied Hebron which manifests Israel's intention to pursue its settlement policy in the Arab territory.

Also addressing the opening session was Dr. Izzat Jaradat, director of congress office, who stressed that the issue of Jerusalem cannot be separated from the Palestine issue because all of Palestine is sacred. He also said that Palestine cannot be separated from the Muslims and Arabs who have lived in and ruled the country throughout history.

Over the past 14 centuries, Jerusalem has remained a symbol for the unity of the Arab and Islamic nations and has served as an axis for the Arab nation, he said. Therefore, all efforts should be mobilised for liberating the holy city from Israeli occupation, Dr. Jaradat added.

Heart recipient celebrates 25th birthday with family gathering in hospital room

By Kana Sabbagh Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Ahmad Abu Shakra who underwent a successful heart transplant operation 16 days ago, Saturday wore a big smile as he blew out 25 birthday candles during a gathering of family and friends in his room at the King Hussein Medical Centre.

Mr. Abu Shakra, dressed in green and brown striped pyjamas and wearing a temporary heart pacemaker around his waist — as insurance against the possibility of drop in heart beat — was for the first time after his April 17 heart transplant allowed by doctors to take off the surgeons mask which he usually wears as a protection against possible infection.

Members of the heart recipient's family, his friends, doctors and nurses as well as patients who share the same floor with Ahmad gathered inside his room singing "happy birthday" after which Ahmad blew out the 25 candles and cut a decorated round cake.

"Believe it or not, I ate more cake than my visitors," Ahmad told the Jordan Times in a delighted and enthusiastic tone which emphasised his happiness over the transplant's success.

Ahmad, a mechanical engineer, who suffered from congestive cardiomyopathy — a heart muscle disease which has no discovered medical treatment and which requires the patient to be kept on

drug — was reported by his doctors on Saturday to be in "excellent shape and condition."

The transplanted heart was taken from a 15-year-old Jordanian, Khader Jazza' Hijazeen, who was declared brain dead by a group of three specialists. One of the deceased boy's kidneys was also transplanted to Nazmieh Mohammad Baker, a 45-year-old house wife who left the hospital a few days ago.

Ahmad's operation was the second ever heart transplant surgery in Jordan. Both heart transplants were performed by a team of medical doctors from the centre and both operations were headed by Major-General Daoud Hanania, head of the Royal Medical Services and chief of cardiac centre at the centre.

Ahmad told the Jordan Times: "As you can see, everything is fine with me. I walk, eat and drink normally and I spend most of my time chatting with other patients, or talking to people at the visitor's room on this floor."

Doing very well

Lieutenant Colonel Aktham Al Hiyari, who is in charge of supervising Ahmad's recovery, said the heart recipient was very cooperative with his doctors and is "doing very well."

Ahmad has to wear a surgeons mask and a heart pacemaker as temporary devices to protect him

from possible infections or a possible drop in heart beat, Dr. Hiyari explained.

He is expected to leave hospital after one month, Dr. Hiyari said. The patient, who left the intensive care unit a week ago, said that he was going to rest for a period of six months after he leaves the hospital.

Working papers

The symposium's first session discussed a number of papers on the social and economic conditions in Arab Jerusalem since 1967. Israel's settlement policies in Palestine and around the holy city and the status of Jerusalem in the Arab-Israeli conflict as well as the Arab cultural and educational situation under Israeli rule.

Back to work

"After the six month period is over, I shall start to look for a job," Ahmad said, adding that he used to work in Saudi Arabia before he suffered from cardiomyopathy, which forced him to leave his job and return to Amman.

"My health condition (until the operation) did not allow me to work. I used to get breathless from the slightest movement I made. But after the operation, I hope to go back to work," he said.

Ahmad and his family also paid tribute to the humanitarian gesture of the Hijazeen family which saved his life.

In response to a question, Dr. Hiyari said: "In heart transplants, the age factor of both the donor and the recipient does play a major decisive factor, as does the similarity in body weight." "Both the recipient and the donor have to have an almost equal weight," Dr. Hiyari said, emphasising that the younger the donor's heart, the better it functions.

Two top Soviet leaders visit nuclear disaster region

(Continued from page 1)

He said scores of the injured might die of radioactive contamination in the next few weeks but radioactive levels were far too low and too locally concentrated to threaten the Soviet Union's neighbours.

The amount of iodine and caesium released into the atmosphere by the Chernobyl explosion was at least 2000 times less than that emitted by nuclear atmospheric tests from 1945 until they were banned in 1965, he said.

Francois Cogne, head of the Institute for Nuclear Protection and Safety run by the Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), said French scientists believed the injuries occurred on Sunday when an attempt to douse a blaze at one of the plant's four reactors backfired, causing an explosion.

A team of Swedish doctors said it had asked permission to visit the Chernobyl area to see how Soviet physicians were treating victims of the disaster.

An American bone marrow transplant specialist, Dr. Robert P. Gale, arrived here Friday to help Soviet medical experts treat accident patients. His visit was privately arranged through American industrialist Armand Hammer.

Meanwhile, levels of radiation over West Germany following the Soviet accident declined on Saturday but officials at border control points continued to check vehicles, ships, and people entering the country from Eastern Europe. The Bonn Interior Ministry said

levels of radiation had fallen across the country and had returned to natural levels in many places. The only temporary increases during the night were registered in Munich and on the North Sea coast.

A Wes, German border police spokesman said the authorities had made radioactivity checks on 655 trucks and many private cars arriving from Eastern Europe since Wednesday night.

The Interior Ministry sought to allay fears that contaminated milk could reach West German shops by announcing that equipment to measure radioactivity had been set up at all dairy collection centres.

Romania on Saturday denied reports that it had declared a state of alert throughout the country following an increase in radioactivity from the Chernobyl accident.

"Reports on an alleged state of alert ordered in Romania following the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident are completely groundless," the official Agencepres news agency said.

The West German Foreign Ministry said on Friday that the Romanian media had reported a state of alert, and that people had been urged to stay indoors and await further instructions over radio and television.

Scandinavian officials said they were turning from their search for radiation "hot spots" Saturday and looking instead for areas with safe levels where restrictions on dairy farmers can be relaxed. The head of the radiation pro-

tection institute, Gunnar Bengtsson, told farmers Friday to keep their cattle in their winter barns to prevent them from eating radiation-dusted pasture grass and contaminating their milk.

In Athens, a nuclear physicist said radiation levels had increased in Greece as a result of the Soviet nuclear disaster.

"We have recorded an increase in radioactivity in the past 24 hours. I can't tell you by how much," the physicist at the Democritus state-run Atomic Energy Research Institute, Panayotis Kritides, told the AP. He declined to give any details.

There was no official announcement on Democritus' findings. Ministries were closed and officials could not be reached because of the Easter holiday.

On Friday, the government announced there would be no danger to Greeks from radioactivity blown south into the Balkans from the Ukraine.

In Washington, U.S. officials say radiation levels at the site of the Soviet accident were sufficient to cause severe illness and death.

A presidential task force set up to monitor the accident said that exposure levels could have been "in the range of 20 rems to hundreds of rems (over the whole of the human body) for the two-day period over which most of the radiation release probably took place."

A rem is a measure of radioactive exposure (one rem is equivalent to one roentgen) and scientists say any dose above 400 rems could be fatal.

21 killed, 41 hurt in Colombo

(Continued from page 1)

find a solution to the ethnic conflict condemned the attack on the plane.

The leader of the delegation, P. Chidambaram, Indian minister of state for administrative reforms, said "such acts of violence against civilians and property are most regrettable and deserve condemnation."

The 1984 explosion prompted Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa to renew charges that Tamil separatists fighting his government were operating from the Indian state of Tamil Nadu in which Madras is located. India has repeatedly denied such charges.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Development plan — realistic targets, uncertain funding

ON his last day in office, Dr. Abdullah Nsour, the outgoing minister of planning, issued eight large volumes, comprising the tentative draft of the new Five-Year Economic and Social Development Plan for the years 1986-1990. Members of the general committee are supposed to meet on Wednesday to evaluate and discuss the draft and act as the parliament of the plan.

The new plan specified seven objectives to be achieved during the coming five years. The objectives in the order of their importance are:

First: An economic growth at five per cent per annum of gross domestic product in real terms, and 5.7 per cent gross national product.

Second: The creation of new job opportunities at the rate of 40,000 new jobs a year. Mainly

through new projects, but partially through replacement of foreign labour, death and retirement, and net migration to other Arab countries.

Third: The reduction of the gap between consumption and domestic production. Consumption is to become 95 per cent of GDP in 1990 instead of the present 111 per cent in 1985, or from 95 per cent of GDP to 87 per cent during the plan duration.

Fourth: Augmentation of domestic revenues of the treasury and rationalisation of public expenditure in order to close the gap between domestic revenue and recurring expenditure. The ratio is to rise from 80 per cent in 1985 to 106 per cent in 1990.

Fifth: The reduction of deficit in the balance of commodities and services from JD

663 million or 36 per cent of GNP in 1985 to JD 657 million or 21 per cent of GNP in 1990. Exports of commodities and services will grow at an annual rate of 8.3 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively, while imports of commodities and services will grow at only 2.8 per cent and 3.6 per cent respectively.

Sixth: Support for Arab joint project and Arab economic cooperation.

Seventh: The development of all regions of the country economically and socially in a more even handed manner.

The new plan will allow consumption to grow at 4 per cent annually, slightly higher than the population growth rate of 3.7 per cent, but gross domestic product should grow at 5 per cent a year, and investments at 5.4 per cent a year.

The plan will also allow imports of goods and services to grow at 3 per cent per annum, provided exports of goods and services, including re-exports, will grow at 6.7 per cent per annum.

Despite the low growth rate of imports, the plan projects a growth rate of 14 per cent of indirect taxes, mainly import duty.

The volume of investments or capital formation is projected to reach JD 3175 million in current prices, of which 44 per cent will be left to the private sector, 26 per cent will be undertaken by the central government, and the balance of 30 per cent is to be underwritten by public institutions, thus raising the share to be shouldered by the public sector to 56 per cent of the investment programme envisaged by the plan.

These investments will be allocated to various sectors. Agriculture will have an unusual high share of 10.3 per cent, water and irrigation 9 per cent, industry and mining 12.6 per cent, energy and resources 8.5 per cent, tourism 1.4 per cent, construction 2.7 per cent, housing 16.2 per cent, transport and communication 14.4 per cent, and other various services 24.9 per cent.

The financial needs during the five year period will be JD 3175 million for projects, JD 222.1 million to allow for change in the reserves, JD 661.6 million for principal repayment of external debts, a total of JD 4058.7 million.

The above needs will be financed by national savings to the extent of JD 1461.3 million

or 36 per cent. The balance is expected to be realised externally as follows: JD 1295 million external transfers to the central government, JD 163 million private transfers, JD 93.9 million foreign and Arab private investments. The balance of JD 1045.5 will be borrowed externally.

In general, the plan has realistic objectives. In fact we don't rule out the possibility of exceeding its targets. The weak point, however, is the excessive dependency on uncertain external sources of financing, which may or may not materialise. Growth and favourable structural changes which will be introduced to the economy are to be weighed against the risks of indulging in heavier external indebtedness. The judgement on this matter is basically political.

Israel streaks into Star Wars club

SOME of the best brains in the scientific community in more than 90 U.S. universities have signed an anti-Star Wars boycott on the grounds that Mr. Reagan's Star Wars, or the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), is nothing but a blind pursuit in the development of the latest in nuclear weaponry, and that it would inevitably lead to an escalation of the nuclear arms race in space with potentially apocalyptic consequences for the world.

Mr. Reagan, however, solicited cooperation from his allies abroad, and no doubt derived immense satisfaction when Britain and West Germany, despite much hesitation and dire opposition from their own scientific communities, agreed to join in some specific fields of SDI research. Furthermore, pressed on by the Jewish lobby in Washington, the U.S. administration was also forced to leap-frog the Atlantic to the Mediterranean coast in order to facilitate Israel's streaking into the Star Wars club. Despite the recent scandalous Pollard spy case, involving two Israeli scientific attaches, SDI programme chief Lt. Gen. James Abrahamson visited Israel last February to recruit Israeli expertise for the project. A high-powered delegation of U.S. companies involved in the SDI also went to Tel Aviv last month for talks and it is expected that a government-to-government memorandum, covering technology transfer and security matters may well soon be signed.

Israel is expected to chip away over \$150 million from the SDI treasure trove of a total \$26 billion development budget over a period of five years. The strategic, economic and political implications of Israel's participation in SDI-related research should greatly worry the Arabs.

Israel's entry into the Star Wars club has injected a new radical element into the Arab-Israeli equation whereby the strategic regional balance will henceforth be tilted even more heavily in favour of the Israelis. For while the SDI in itself should be viewed as a space-based defence programme initiated within the context of superpower rivalry, Israel's participation in it is to be considered within a narrower context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. In addition, there should be no room for doubt that whatever weapons or technology Israel is called upon to develop under Pentagon direction, they would have relevant applications in local or regional contingencies as well as global ones. It is an Israeli claim for example, that for the moment it does not have an effective counter to the Soviet SS-21 ground-to-ground ballistic missiles deployed in Syria. But the problem does not stop there. Israel will certainly avail itself of any opportunities provided by the Pentagon to develop and perfect its own nuclear deterrence in order to step up its nuclear blackmail against the Arabs.

Already a no-war-no-peace situation in the Middle East has been imposing an undue economic burden on the Arabs to maintain their defence forces. Israel's participation in the SDI would act as a catalyst for the Arab Nation to spend more economic resources on defence in order to maintain effective defences against Israeli aggression. This would add a further strain to the Arab economy, which is already under pressure due to the slump in oil prices.

Politically, the prospects of a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict are much weaker than before. Israel always has been negotiating with the Arabs from the position of military strength. Participation in the SDI would further encourage it to become more arrogant and obstinate in finding a solution to the Palestinian problem.

The whole purpose of initiating Israel into the Star Wars club thus appears to be to reinforce Israel's strategic position in the region, making it more difficult for the Arabs to negotiate a peaceful and honourable settlement in the Middle East.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: An occasion to be proud

THE JORDANIAN family on Friday celebrated the anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers. It was an occasion to feel proud of the many achievements Jordan made under King Hussein over the past 33 years. It was also an anniversary of renewing allegiance to the Hashemite throne and to manifest our national cohesion and our national commitments towards our country.

Needless to say the achievements reflect the bright image of the country, its people and leadership, working diligently over the years in a unique unity. Over the past years the King has been able to make his political leadership an excellent example to be followed by others with regard to national responsibility and serving the people's higher interests and rights.

The people of this country have the right to be proud of the achievements but it is also an occasion for the people to renew a pledge that they will go along with King Hussein in the long march for construction and progress.

Al Dustour: A reminder of sacrifices

THE JORDANIAN people are really proud and satisfied with the various achievements of their country realised over the past 33 years. They are also happy on the anniversary of King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers, an occasion that reminds us of the great sacrifice and the dedication of the King for his nation. The past years serve as a record of good achievements despite the hardships and the challenges this country had to pass through.

King Hussein, since his assumption of his powers has devoted his time and work for strengthening his country's ties with other nations in general and the Arab states in particular. On the domestic front the King achieved great progress and development for his country despite the occupation of the West Bank and despite the ever-present Zionist danger, and has spared no effort in extending help to the Arab people under Israeli rule.

Sawt Al Shaab: Golden years of Jordan

THE PAST 33 years marked the golden years in Jordan's history and were characterised with diligence, hard work and dedication on the part of its leader King Hussein, and his people. The King's leadership of Jordan over these years serve as an example for other leaders to do good for their people and nation. The Jordanian people will go ahead with their relentless efforts under King Hussein's leadership to achieve more progress and prosperity. As we look back, we remember the many difficulties and the dangers that we have overcome and feel proud that we made it through, but we also look with real concern over the continued occupation of Palestinian land and feel more determined to march behind the King towards liberating the land and the holy places, and saving our people and our heritage.

Next time around, Jackson vows disciplined politics

By Michael Gelb

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Black activist Jesse Jackson has pledged a new style of disciplined politics in what could be the start of his bid for the White House in 1988.

He did so at the recent formal launching of a political organisation that aims to make him the voice of the Democratic Party's liberal wing.

The Baptist preacher and self-styled protégé of the late Martin Luther King Jr. became the first black to make a serious bid for the presidential nomination of a major U.S. political party two years ago. Jackson, 44, is widely expected to try again in 1988.

His lively 1984 campaign often resembled improvisational theatre, but he says he will do it with discipline if he runs again next time.

"The science of politics requires rules and discipline," said Jackson — until now a free spirit notorious for shunning the rules, discipline and "metaphors of ordinary politics" — in a speech to the "founding convention" of his Rainbow Coalition political organisation.

"The Rainbow Coalition will have rules and discipline in order to be an effective vehicle in the political arena."

The Rainbow's Washington meeting, attended by urban blacks, union leaders, nuclear freeze advocates, farmers and environmentalists, was symbolic of Jackson's effort to extend his personal appeal beyond the black community and bring some structure to his political efforts.

Two years ago, he won about 3.5 million votes, mostly from blacks, in Democratic primary elections and controlled the third largest bloc of delegates at the party's national convention, after nominee Walter Mondale and senator Gary Hart of Colorado.

But he got few policy concessions from the Democratic leadership and came away convinced he had to change his tactics if he wanted real clout in the party.

"Ideas flow from the head, but power flows from operational unity," Jackson says.

In 1984, he seemed utterly unconcerned with the preplanned itinerary and schedules that govern mainstream candidates.

Journalists trying to cover his campaign joked that he operated on "Jesse time."

One reporter recalls receiving assurances that Jackson's itinerary

one particular weekend would include an appearance in New Hampshire, but no official announcement of candidacy.

In fact, Jackson never made it to New Hampshire, but he did pop up in a television interview and officially disclosed he would indeed run for president.

His entourage in those days included a variety of spokesmen, who sometimes disagreed about where he was at the moment and where he would surface next.

By contrast, the recent Rainbow Convention was coordinated by a public relations firm and ran pretty much on schedule.

Reporters were provided an advance text of his major speech to the meeting — a routine with other political figures but a rarity with Jackson, a flamboyant orator who prefers poetic improvisation to reading prepared texts.

In press conferences and remarks to the convention, he repeatedly stressed the need to abandon the "slandor (amateur) politics" of 1984 and bring cohesion to the liberal wing of the Democratic Party.

The convention, which adopted a charter and bylaws, said in a statement of purpose it was convened "to institutionalise the national Rainbow Coalition as a new political movement."

Although Jackson coined the term "Rainbow Coalition" to describe the supposed diversity of his support in 1984, the organisation — and the non-black support — existed largely on paper.

Jackson's impact in Democratic Party councils has been hampered, by the belief that his appeal is limited to blacks, a bloc of voters that has overwhelmingly backed Democratic candidates in any case for the last half century. Party leaders think they can count on black votes with or without him.

About 80 per cent of Jackson's 1984 votes came from blacks, and some analysts doubt he can win significant white support.

But at a time when most Democratic leaders are moving rigidly toward in hopes of recapturing some of the middle-road vote devoted to Ronald Reagan since 1980, Jackson has his sights on speaking for the party's liberal wing — a group currently without a visible national spokesman.

"We cannot stand idly by and watch the party shift to the right of centre," he says to those who argue that the Democrats have lost four of five presidential polls in part because voters believe the party has been too liberal.

First Arab to become an American ambassador

DOHA — A 41-year-old Arab-American has become U.S. ambassador to Qatar. It is an appointment to be noted, because this is the first time an Arab-born American subject has ever become an American ambassador.

Ambassador Joseph Ghogassian, delighted to be in Qatar, is relishing his role as an Arab-American assigned to such an important position. He talked openly about his ethnic, academic and political background in a recent interview with Ellen Lewis of "Weekly Gulf Times".

Born in Egypt in 1944, Mr. Ghogassian is a writer as well as a diplomat. He has published some highly-regarded works on a number of widely different topics. His first book, *Personality Psychology* was well received. "I next chose a very different subject to pursue," he says. "I wrote a book called: *Toward Women, A Study of the Origin of Western Attitudes through Greco-Roman Philosophy*." His next topic grew from the syllabus of a popular course he was teaching called: *Contemporary Arabic Thought*.

"One of the Arabic thinkers I lectured on was the famous poet, Khalil Gibran. I subsequently wrote a book, *Khalil Gibran, Wings of Thought*."

How does a professor, author and perennial student become involved in politics and eventually find his way to Qatar?

"When Ronald Reagan won the election in 1980 and moved into the White House in the winter of 1981, I was asked to join him," the ambassador said. "I was appointed as Senior Advisor to the President for Immigration, Naturalisation and Refugee Policy. I was also a Special Assistant for Public and Private Liaison for the Department of Health. The President then asked me to go to the Yemen Arab Republic to become Director of the Peace Corps. I greatly enjoyed that position, which I held for three years."

"The President on my appointment to Qatar asked me to do some very specific things for him. He instructed me to continue to strengthen the friendly relationship the U.S. has with Qatar. The U.S. views Qatar as a friendly nation and prides itself on its special relationship with the Emir, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al Thani. We value that immensely. We seek to strengthen our ties in all domains. I am very proud that I was handpicked by the President as an Arab American to pursue these goals" — The Voice of The Arab World.



Tokyo summit looks less predictable than others

By Eric Hall

Reuter

TOKYO — No one expects a shouting match at the Tokyo summit from May 4-6 but officials from the nations taking part say this meeting promises to be less predictable than its predecessors.

"Previously the tone of summits tended to have been set ahead of the meeting, usually by the United States, but this time there is less clear direction. The play will be more open than it has been in the past," said one European ambassador.

The summits are as much a stage-managed show to make the leaders look good to their voters as they are a serious forum of debate, said another senior Western diplomat.

The leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada, and representatives of the European Community (EC), must thus agree — or appear to agree — on major economic and political issues on which they have failed to reach consensus in the run up to the meeting.

The resulting delicately engineered piece of prose in the final communiqué should be closely perused to discern any policy cracks below the smooth surface, the officials said.

Bits and pieces of draft declarations on neutral issues are surfacing now, reflecting behind-the-scenes horse-trading already going on to ensure a smooth communiqué.

Japan's Kyodo news agency reported that it had obtained a draft political declaration in which the seven nations would call for balanced reduction of armed forces in both East and West and a peaceful settlement of regional conflicts, without referring to specific regional issues.

Last month's U.S. air attack on Libya forced the topic of international terrorism to top of the summit political agenda.

But the violence of Washington's response to alleged Libyan support of terrorism drew criticism from concerned European allies and frightened Japan into taking no position at all on the affair, the officials said.

Prospects are that a declaration on terrorism will be restrained, agreeing on need for more action but stopping short of support for U.S.-style military retaliation, they said.

On the economic front, which is supposed to be the main business of the summit, concern over Japan's trade surpluses and the U.S. deficit is being complicated by the rapid fall of the dollar, which was supposed to help solve the problems.

In the last few days, official positions on the dollar slide have fluctuated as radically as currencies themselves.

Dealers in New York, Tokyo and London said money markets had been left in confusion over whether Washington now wants a stable or a lower dollar, and whether the Europeans will defend or attack Japan's expected summit call for a stable U.S. currency.

Last September, the group of five (G-5) major industrial nations made a firm pact to depress the then overvalued dollar by concerted central bank action, to cut Japanese exports by making them more expensive, and to seek money back out of the huge U.S. government debt.

—and the powerful West German Bundesbank do not agree with a further dollar fall.

Last Thursday, Bundesbank chief Karl-Otto Poehl was quoted as saying the dollar had fallen enough and that European central banks and Fed chairman Paul Volcker shared that view.

The summit is therefore likely to steer clear of obvious bickering over the dollar, the officials said.

Instead, it will probably reaffirm the small print in last September's G-5 agreement calling for a reduced U.S. deficit, for Japan to replace export growth with domestic demand, and for Europe to face its structural economic problems.

Japanese officials said there was no formal plan as yet to discuss this week's nuclear reactor accident in the Soviet Union, but the topic is bound to be raised.

On solving the world debt problem and arrangements for a new round of world trade talks the summit participants will be on

11 past meetings.

These have been heavy on talk but light on solutions to economic and political problems discussed each year by leaders of the seven major industrialised nations.

Here, in summary, is what transpired at previous summits:

Bonn, 1985 — President Reagan leads call for new round of multilateral trade talks in 1986 but fails to win French support. France forced to drop a demand for conference on world monetary reform.

London, 1984 — Agreement on need to continue tough anti-inflation measures, broaden dialogue with Moscow, liaise on anti-terrorist efforts and help Third World nations.

Williamsburg, Virginia, U.S.A., 1983 — Agreement on need to curb Western sales to Communist bloc, concern over global impact of high U.S. interest rates.

Versailles, 1982 — Discard over extent Western sales to Communist nations should be curbed, but agreement on need to fight protectionism.

Ottawa, 1981 — President Reagan's first "get acquainted" summit. Some accord on need to curb Western sales to Communist bloc, concern over global impact of high U.S. interest rates.

Venice, 1980 — Fighting inflation is given high priority, but there is concern over tight U.S. monetary policy forcing up interest rates, boosting dollar at expense of other currencies.

Tokyo, 1979 — Consensus on promoting economic growth and a stable foreign exchange market and on bringing poorer nations more fully into world economy. Belated agreement on limiting oil imports following OPEC price increases.

Bonn, 1978 — United States is asked to curb high energy use. West Germany and Japan are urged to stimulate their economies to encourage growth in rest of world.

London, 1977 — Agreement on need to conserve energy, curb protectionism, promote world economic growth.

San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1976 — Consensus on need for tougher control of public finance and for cutting unemployment without stocking inflation.

Rambouillet, France, 1975 — Agreement at first seven-nation summit on need to bolster weakening U.S. dollar, stabilise world currency markets, fight inflation, resist protectionism.

On solving the world debt problem and arrangements for a new round of world trade talks the summit participants will be on firmer ground — everyone agrees in principle that these are a good thing. The summit is expected to underwrite the initiative by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker to supply debtor nations with more funds and help them through further growth in the developed world. But Europe wants any new forum under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to involve developing nations.

But the 32 per cent plunge of the dollar to below 170 yen set Japan's industry screaming for respite, prompting a futile pre-summit attempt by the Bank of Japan to support the dollar.

New York economists said continued U.S. trade deficits will make President Reagan more determined than ever to press for a weaker dollar at the summit, despite Japan's discomfort.

"There is no point to the dollar fall if it does not cause pain to Japanese exporters," said one U.S. official.

Reagan is likely to be supported by Britain and the European Community, which want a further rise in the yen's value against both the dollar and the European currencies.

However, his task has been complicated by signs that the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank — the Fed

firmly ground — everyone agrees in principle that these are a good thing.

The summit is expected to underwrite the initiative by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker to supply debtor nations with more funds and help them through further growth in the developed world.

But Europe wants any new forum under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to involve developing nations.

"The industrial nations cannot be seen to be dictating if a new round of trade talks is to have credibility," an EC official said.

Previous summits

If the summit fails to produce world-shaking decisions, it will uphold a tradition established in

Despite accidents, few nations can afford to halt nuclear power

By Joe Joseph
 Reuters

LONDON — The "tragedy" at the Chernobyl reactor in the Soviet Union will fan an already fierce debate on the safety of nuclear power but analysts say very few nations can afford the luxury of turning their backs on a cheap and growing source of the world's energy.

Despite stiff opposition from environmentalists, nuclear power has already eclipsed oil as a key source of electricity in the West. The world's top industrial economies now reap nearly a fifth of their electricity from nuclear power and economists say this figure could as much as double by the turn of the century.

"On purely economic arguments, nuclear power does appear to provide the best bet for the world's energy users into the 1990s and into the next century," said John Shephard, energy analyst at the Henley Centre for Forecasting in London.

But while governments this week have been quick to pledge allegiance to their ambitious nuclear timetables, politicians may now have to bow to pressure to proceed more slowly.

The image of nuclear power as a cheap, clean and safe energy source is under fresh scrutiny and the anti-nuclear lobby has wasted little time in pressing its claim that nuclear power plants are merely nuclear accidents waiting to happen.

"It would be very surprised if Chernobyl didn't set nuclear programmes back quite substantially," said Colin Robinson, professor of economics at Surrey University, "though the impact will depend on the degree of oppo-

sition from the anti-nuclear lobby and will vary a lot from country to country."

"Politicians do take notice of this kind of reaction, but it will probably be a question of generally slowing down rather than cancelling nuclear projects," Robinson added.

Shepherd agrees that with so many European governments so well advanced in their nuclear programmes, they are unlikely to call a total halt, though "they may delay progress until there is some clearer idea of what went wrong in Russia."

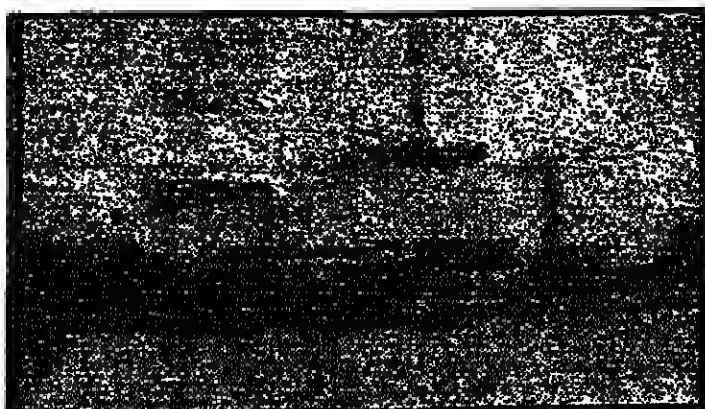
The economics and politics of energy are notoriously tricky to predict and so far no-one is even sure of the scale or causes of the disaster at Chernobyl. But radioactivity carried on the wind into Scandinavia is bound to prompt wider debate on the wisdom of nuclear expansion.

When the dust of Chernobyl has settled, there will at the very least be demands for a web of stricter safety regulations and tighter construction guidelines—additional costs which could tip the balance against commissioning new reactors.

The recent slump in oil prices offers the prospect of a cheap alternative, but for how long? Westerosers have learnt the risks of tying their fate to oil suppliers. And coal, though widely available, is often an expensive option to nuclear-generated power.

Worried that an unseemly rush by consumers to revel in cheaper oil might spell dangers for the future, energy officials were preaching the folly of complacency well before Chernobyl.

In Paris this week, Helga Steeg, director of the International Energy



Photograph of the Chernobyl nuclear plant taken from the February edition of Soviet Life magazine

Agency (IEA) which coordinates energy policy to try to assure supplies, warned again that "IEA member countries cannot forego the possibility of nuclear power generation."

Otherwise, she said, they would slip back into dependence on oil supplies from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"Operating safety is no problem here," she stressed in an effort to soothe the fears of the environmental lobby.

Others have been giving similar warnings.

"Only by investing heavily in nuclear power today can we be sure of avoiding high-cost energy in the 1990s and beyond," the Economist magazine said recently. It advised those celebrating the advent of cheap oil to remember the maxim, "that the time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining."

Stung by the twin oil price shocks of the 1970s, Western countries are now wary of investing their trust in a hazy future of cheap

plentiful oil, particularly since more of this finite resource is burnt each year than is found.

Outside the politically turbulent Middle East, still home to over half the world's crude reserves, oil prospects are fairly dim.

America's oil output, for example, peaked 15 years ago and proven U.S. oil reserves declined steadily through the 1970s and early 1980s despite rising prices for the commodity.

The unity of the once-powerful OPEC oil producers may be under severe strain now but Western governments are wary of hankering on OPEC remaining a spent force forever.

The evidence so far suggests that they intend, instead, to stick with their long-term nuclear programmes. Nuclear officials of the European Community, which taps a third of its electricity from nuclear plants, stress there is no danger in Western Europe of an accident similar to the one at Chernobyl.

France, the world's second largest producer of nuclear power

after the U.S., remains an enthusiastic convert. Atomic Energy Commission President Gerard Renon said the Chernobyl accident would have no effect on France's nuclear programme, which already supplies some 70 per cent of the country's electricity.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was quick to assert that the state-owned nuclear industry had a superb record in Britain, which rejected 40 years ago the system now used by the Soviets.

Nuclear-generated electricity, set to feed a quarter of the power to Britain's national grid by the end of the decade, already accounts for 18 per cent of the country's energy output.

Environment spokesman Ron Page accepted the Soviet accident would make it harder to persuade the public that government plans for the industry were on the correct course. But he said the accident had no bearing on British nuclear plans, which include a new power station at Sizewell, in eastern England, and finding a burial site for low-intermediate nuclear waste.

Japan, which plans to treble its nuclear capacity by the end of the century, has rejected all calls by opposition politicians and environmentalist lobby groups to rethink its strategy.

Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who wants the Netherlands to build up to four nuclear power stations in the 1990s, said the Soviet accident "does not need to affect the developments in energy in Western Europe and the United States." Chernobyl, he said, showed "an element of backwardness" in Soviet technology.

In those countries where nuclear

plant construction has stalled, delays have usually reflected cash problems rather than an aversion to nuclear power. China is the most obvious example.

Even in the Soviet Union, which plans to build 30 nuclear power stations over the next decade, a substantial switch away from nuclear power is unlikely.

Analysts say too much investment has already been sunk into the Soviet nuclear industry, and although the USSR has plentiful supplies of oil, coal and gas, these are either already fully exploited or are in the wrong place to be economically useful.

The nuclear power industry in the U.S. is still smarting from the 1979 failure of the Three Mile Island reactor in Pennsylvania. The worst accident in the history of the U.S. nuclear industry was followed by a wave of plant cancellations and no new nuclear stations have been planned since 1980.

A coalition of U.S. consumer, environmental and scientific groups is pressing for American nuclear power plants to be phased out.

But even in the U.S., coal, whose economic arithmetic is under threat from the collapse in world oil prices, is unlikely to benefit much from the psychological fallout from Chernobyl.

"I don't think there will be any connection between the Soviet accident and what will happen in the U.S. (coal) industry," said David Banks of the National Coal Association, a U.S. industry trade group. "There are so few additions (of nuclear plants) planned in the next 10 years that I don't think nuclear growth can slow much further," he said.

Brazil's bishops welcome Pope's new stance on Third World

By Richard Waddington
 Reuters

SAO PAULO — Brazilian bishops, among the most outspoken in the Catholic church on social issues, have welcomed Vatican decisions seen as signalling a greater understanding of the problems of the church in the Third World.

Last month, the Vatican announced it was lifting a sentence of silence imposed on one of Brazil's leading theologians, Father Leonardo Boff, and shortly afterwards issued a new document on the controversial Theology of Liberation which took a more conciliatory line towards teachings that have won a wide following in Latin America.

These moves, together with a successful meeting between Pope John Paul II and Brazilian church leaders in March, followed by a warmly-worded papal letter, have ended a tense period in Rome's relations with the Third World's largest church.

"It is a great relief," said Bishop Luciano Mendes, who is secretary-general of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops and is generally considered a moderate on church issues.

The Vatican's new stance on Liberation Theology, which it described as positive while maintaining warnings on potential dangers, brought a jubilant reaction from its supporters in the Brazilian church.

The Pope understands the role of Liberation Theology and is now the Pope of liberation," Boff told a press conference in Rio de Janeiro last week.

The new document and the Pope's letter, "practically officialise" the Theology of Liberation, said Bishop Pedro Casaldaliga, who last year joined Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, a fellow priest, on a hunger strike against U.S. policy towards Nicaragua.

Relations between the Vatican and the Brazilian church had been under strain since late 1984, when the Vatican issued a warning on the dangers of Liberation Theology and sentenced Boff, one of its leading proponents, to a period of silence.

The Vatican said some variants of the Theology of Liberation, which tries to meld biblical teachings with the experience of the poor and oppressed, had become too Marxist-orientated.

The publication of the "Instructions on Certain Aspects of Liberation Theology" and the silencing of Boff provoked widespread concern within the Brazilian church.

Most Brazilian bishops share the Vatican's disapproval of Marxism, but felt the document was negative about the church's struggle for greater social justice in Brazil, said Jose Queiroz, director of special studies at the Catholic University.

Brazilians saw the theology as a legitimate attempt to derive a theory for Christian action in a society where injustice abounded. Boff, among others, denies that elements of Marxism are involved. Queiroz said.

Europe appeared to be far more concerned with establishing such a link than the Third World did, he added.

Many bishops were also upset by the lack of any prior consultation with its confederation before the Vatican decided to question and then ban Boff, he said.

"The day they sentenced Father Boff was the saddest day of my life," said Sao Paulo's influential Cardinal Archbishop Paulo Evaristo Arns, a fellow Franciscan who never hid his support for his former pupil.

"I share with him the responsibility," said Arns, who was one of three church leaders to accompany Boff to his hearing in Rome in September 1984.

The ban on Boff was lifted after a special meeting between the Pope and a group of Brazil's most senior churchmen in Rome in March.

The bishops apparently convinced the Pope during the meeting that the church's actions were not motivated by social theories but by concern for the poor and the need for a new and more just society.

They reassured the Pope that they were not neglecting the spiritual side of the church's mission through their concern for political and social problems, Bishop Mendes said.

In Pope John Paul's subsequent letter to Brazilian bishops, he appeared to go even further than last month's "Instruction on Christian Freedom and Liberation." The theology was "not just opportunist, but useful and necessary," the Pope wrote.

He entrusted the Brazilian church with the development of a theology that could inspire a new and fraternal society that was neither capitalist nor collectivist. "The Pope wants to establish a new policy with the church in Brazil... in his recognition of Liberation Theology, the Pope became convinced that Brazilian bishops are close to their people," Boff said.

Boff, who is free to resume his teaching at the Franciscan Institute of Theology outside Rio and publish books written during the year of silence, said the church now had a clear commitment with the liberation of the poor. "It is a seal of approval for those that fight against poverty," he said.

For the 47-year-old theologian, the church in the Third World had now become so important that it would be no surprise if the next Pope came from outside Europe, perhaps Brazil's Cardinal Arns "or an African bishop," he said.

Are the boom days over for Arab airlines?

By John Owen-Davies
 Reuters

BAHRAIN — The boom days are over for Arab civil airlines, competing for a dwindling number of passengers in a region beset by economic problems, war and gunner attacks, aviation sources in the area say.

Most Arab airlines, lucrative markets for plane makers in the 1970s, have been forced to reassess expansion plans in an era of lower profits, they add.

"One major problem facing the airlines, some of which rely heavily on international networks for revenue, is the overseas image of the Middle East in the wake of the latest U.S. attacks on Libya and because of prolonged wars in the Gulf and Lebanon."

Tourist industry sources said the number of visitors to Arab countries, especially from Western Europe and the United States, is expected to drop sharply this year because of fear of hijacks and gunner action.

On April 2, four people were killed in a bomb blast aboard a Trans World Airlines (TWA) jet bound for Cairo. Last year, 60 people died in the hijacking of an Egyptian plane to Malta and one

was killed when another TWA jet was forced to Beirut.

There have also been hijacks in the Gulf, largely connected with the 5-1/2 year Iran-Iraq war, affecting Kuwaiti and Saudi airlines.

The general trend towards lower revenues is worldwide. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) said last October it expected profits of its 140 members to fall in 1985 to \$100 million from \$500 million the previous year.

IATA, which saw 1985 as one of the worst years in civil aviation history with a series of attacks and major accidents, said the industry expected net losses this year.

Gulf-based airlines are suffering from effects of the Iran-Iraq war, lower oil prices and an exodus of expatriate labour — mainly Indians, Pakistanis, South Koreans, Filipinos and Sri Lankans — at a time of economic readjustment.

Bahrain-based Gulf Air, owned by Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the emirate of Abu Dhabi, projects a net profit of around 11 million Bahraini dinars (\$29.2 million) for 1986, down about 12 per cent from the expected 1985 figure.

The airline, which has a Gulf network and flies to Europe, the

Far East and the Indian subcontinent, has no immediate plans to update its U.S. Boeing-based fleet of 20 aircraft.

Airline chairman Ali Ibrahim Al Malki said the outlook was "very difficult." Bahraini Ministry of Transport Minister Youssef Ahmed Shirawi has predicted a loss of some one million passengers coming to the Gulf between now and 1991.

Emirates Air of Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, started operations last year on lucrative subcontinental routes, which is also expected to hurt Gulf Air profits, the aviation sources said.

Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) said it expected 1985/86 revenues to fall nine per cent, its 1984/85 net profit was just 171,000 Kuwaiti dinars (\$596,000), down 14.5 per cent from the previous year.

"The Iran-Iraq war, the Lebanese civil war and the economic recession because of the oil price collapse have all harmed economic sectors of the Gulf, including airlines," KAC chairman Ahmed Al Mishari said recently.

Mishari said no new aircraft purchases were planned for the KAC fleet, which includes Boeing 747s, four of them adapted for extended range, and European

Airbuses. The airline is still trying to reclaim an Airbus hijacked to Iran in December 1984.

Sandia, of Saudi Arabia, which serves 41 international destinations, has a fleet of about 100 planes, including Boeing 747s, Airbus and Lockheed Tristars.

It carried 11.4 million passengers in 1984, two-thirds of them domestically. While the level of international operations was almost unchanged in 1985, the number of domestic passengers dropped by around 500,000 to 7.3 million.

Aviation sources say the Saudi government has advised all government-related employees, including expatriates, to use Sandia when travelling abroad.

Sandia has been involved in two hijacks in the past two years, one ending in Tehran. Passengers have to carry identity cards, while foreigners on domestic routes must carry letters from sponsors supporting their trip.

All of Jordan, Egyptair, Iraqi Airways and Syrian Arab Airlines are believed to carry armed guards on flights, the sources said.

But the presence of guards failed to stop two hijacks last year — of an Ailla passenger plane to Beirut and an Egyptair Boeing 737 to

Malta. Sixty people died in the latter incident which ended when the plane was stormed by Egyptian commandos.

The sources said safety measures imposed by Iraqi Airways, whose planes are the main users of Baghdad airport, were ranked highly by IATA. Passengers are not allowed to carry any luggage on board.

Egyptair said its flights outside the area had been badly hit, with more than 50 per cent cancellations from tourists. To help save hard currency and discourage foreign travel, the government raised air fares last December by 60 per cent.

The airline's 1984/5 profit was 28.5 million Egyptian pounds (\$23.65 million), down from 39.8 million pounds (\$33 million) the previous year.

In Jordan, Majdi Sabri, of Ailla's planning department, said the airline's routes to the Gulf had been the most seriously affected by economic conditions and the oil price slump. Passenger traffic fell 4.7 per cent last year from 1984.

Beirut-based Middle East Airlines (MEA), badly hit by the economic situation in war-torn Lebanon, has frozen development

plans. "The future of the country is the future of the company," an MEA official said. It has no agreement with European airport on extra security, "but we understand they have security arrangements in connection with our flights," he said.

Syrian Arab Airlines, which flies Boeings and Soviet Tupolevs, has no immediate expansion plans, aviation sources in Damascus said. The airline does not employ any foreigners.

The number of passengers carried on foreign flights by Air Algérie last year rose nine per cent compared with 1984, according to the official APS news agency in Algiers. It said income from 2.25 million passengers rose 14 per cent.

Morocco's Royal Air Maroc, which flies to 50 destinations in 30 countries, reported a \$10 million profit in 1984 and airline director Mohamed Mokouar — the current IATA head — said he expected a gain of nearly 110 per cent for 1985.

On the other hand, Tunis Air lost the equivalent of \$3.2 million in 1984, according to latest available figures.

Car phones are a new toy for the upwardly mobile

By Robert Kearns
 Reuters

WASHINGTON — Robert Anderson, an engineer for a suburban Washington building firm, swings his car onto a busy street, steps on the accelerator and telephones his office while wheeling along.

"It lets them find me when I am moving between jobs which in my business are always miles apart," Anderson says of his handy new gadget — a car phone — while awaiting a reply to his request for information on the client he is about to see.

A communications advance that is just making its bow here and there around the globe — experts cite Japan, Hong Kong, Britain, Austria and Israel (and Jordan) among other beachheads — the car phone has become a hot new status symbol in America (and elsewhere).

"It's a real kick to call my friends and talk to them just before I pull into the driveway," says Howard Long, a Virginia student whose parents gave him one as an 18th birthday gift.

"It also impresses the girls, to be able to call and say you are talking from a car phone."

A development barely two years old in the United States, the new mobile phone technology is now leap-frogging from one metropolitan community to another across the country.

The Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association reported there were less than 100,000 mobile phones linked to telephone systems at the beginning of 1985. By year's end, it said, there were 340,213 customers — a 271 per cent increase.

"We almost became a billion dollar industry," said association official Robert Maher. He said capital investments totalled \$911.1 million, after the year began with \$354.7 million.

Robert Edelman, who heads

American telephone and telegraph's mobile systems operation, predicts that up to 40 million car phones will be in use within 15 years — meaning one out of every four U.S. drivers will have one.

Communications analysts on Wall Street have forecast this may become one of the fastest growing businesses ever with sales of equipment climbing to \$8 billion a year by the end of the century.

The microchip technology that is changing the mobile phone from a static-prone toy for the rich to a familiar working tool is complicated, but basically it works in conjunction with transmitting antennae erected in various cities.

Each city's transmitter system is divided into regions called "cells." Car phones are often called "cellular phones."

The car need only be within the operating radius of any transmitter system to operate the phone, and calls can be placed to anywhere in the world just as with an ordinary phone.

Experts in the field predict 500 U.S. metropolitan areas will have cellular service within five years.

The Federal Communications Commission controls the licensing and grants cellular system permits to two firms in each area, ensuring hot competition.

A score of major suppliers now offer phones costing as much as \$4,000 for fancy models with various frills. But prices have been plummeting as competition heats up and technology advances.

At present most U.S. customers still prefer to lease their car phones for as little as \$50 a month.

This has led equipment makers to trim prices sharply to make buying more attractive. One firm recently put a price tag of less than \$800 on a basic model that would have sold for about \$2,000 two years ago.

The attraction of the car phone

for the travelling executive who spends frustrating hours on the road is obvious.

The salesman, the builder and the field service trade are the base of the booming business for portable telephones. "They are the ones who can increase their productivity and profits," says Edie Maybaw, who sells the phones in Maryland.

But in a demonstration of their potential for turning a profit, portable phones have even turned up in Texas at a trial involving an oil company. The outcome was so important an influence on share prices that at least a dozen traders

used the portable phones, in their cars and detached from them, to relay the verdict to colleagues.

And, as the infant industry grows, it spreads its lure to gadget-crazy Americans used to electronic wizardry.

Firms in the business say the mobile phone is now becoming a social device as well as a business tool.

In California, by far the biggest U.S. market in this field, phone company officials estimate more than one out five car-phone calls is made after normal business hours.

The Texas cities of Dallas and Houston are also booming car

phone centres.

It is a relatively expensive practice, costing about \$3 for a few minutes' chat.

The new trend is also creating a spin-off effect in law enforcement circles, where there is concern that phoning while driving will start to impair road safety and cause accidents.

While there is little data to go on so far, police in Virginia for instance have ordered drivers they see using telephones to pull over until they complete their calls.

Some industry officials say a study being done for the Cal-

ifornia highway patrol may help set safety standards.

Some firms are working on voice-activated dialling and speaking attachments that would allow drivers to keep both hands on the wheel.

But one Washington-area disc jockey says he sees a safety feature in the new trend. One frigid morning last winter, he asked those with car phones to advise where they found icy roads. Then he broadcast the results to help avoid tie-ups.

He won praise from a traffic police official who called in — from his car, which was tied up in traffic.

Eternal city cowers before fast food invasion

By Michela Wong
 Reuters

ROME — Rome's historic centre, famous throughout the world for the faded elegance of its piazzas, churches and cobbled streets, is threatened by an invasion of hamburgers, chips, hot dogs and milkshakes.

Fast food, nicknamed "mangia e scappa" (eat it and run), has finally arrived in the eternal city, with garish restaurants and snack bars springing up in the renaissance squares and discarded hamburger wrappers and empty coke cans littering the streets.

Rome, often conquered in the past, now faces a more insidious 20th-century threat which delights its trendy youngsters but horrifies their parents.

In Piazza Barberini, graced by a fountain designed by 17th-century sculptor Gian Lorenzo Bernini, a streamlined big burger hamburger restaurant now adds a brash modern flavour.

In Piazza di Spagna, not far from the house where the romantic English poet John Keats died, a huge branch of the American McDonald's hamburger

chain opened last month.

Arnold's and Benny burger already operate in the city centre and there are plans to convert an old cinema yards away from the Trevi Fountain, one of the city's most well-known sights, into a fast-food restaurant.

The proliferation of new American-style restaurants can be largely attributed to a decision the Italian parliament made in 1984 to revise a law prohibiting part-time employment, on which fast food restaurants rely.

Their appeal is that they serve quick, cheap meals which can be eaten on the move — a relatively new concept in a city where the southern Italian tradition of extended lunch-hours and sleep-inducing, many-coursed meals still held true until recently.

But their appearance is being met with a wave of hostile protests, as local citizens and politicians complain that the fast-food restaurants destroy the historic charm of central Rome.

Earlier in April Italian actors, directors and singers, belonging to a newly-formed "Let's Save Rome" campaign, staged a dem-

onstration at the bottom of the picturesque Spanish Steps to protest at what they described as "the Americanisation of Italian life."

Offering plates of spaghetti to curious onlookers, the celebrity demonstrators urged their audience to "Eat Italian" and called on Rome's authorities to limit the number of fast-food restaurants in the city centre.

"The Americans may have won the war, but that was 40 years ago," said one demonstrator. "We're telling the United States — please stop taking advantage of us."

Nearby, McDonald's continued to serve hundreds of hamburgers, chips and milkshakes.

The branch, the only one in Rome, is the largest in the world, seating 450. Proud owner Jacques Bahbont has calculated that his restaurant can serve up to 2,000 meals an hour. Undeterred by the outraged local reaction, he plans to open another two branches in the centre — near Piazza Navona and in Trastevere.

But some local politicians are trying to get the McDonald's closed.

Members of the Italian Communist Party, in opposition to the town council, wish to review McDonald's licence on the grounds of "degradation of the city centre."

Some opponents also claim the conversion of a former restaurant into a hamburger bar is in breach of building and fire regulations. The council is still discussing the issue.

Some left-wing groups have daubed slogans in Rome linking McDonald's and U.S. foreign policy saying "Down with the American way of life, from the brain to the stomach."

But the leftwingers face opposition from right wing councillors with the interests of local restaurant owners at heart.

As the council tussles with its conscience, the future of McDonald's and other fast food chains hoping to open in Rome's centre hangs in the balance.

The issue also cropped up at parliamentary level when three members of the Chamber of Deputies last week asked Prime Minister Bettino Craxi to safeguard the architectural works of the city.

Nuclear plant for scrap heap?

By Erlinda Bolido and Andy Crump

The Bataan nuclear power plant, built under the Marcos rule amid rumours of corruption, has yet to operate. Muss opposition to the reactor, which is

Dalglish goal secures title for Liverpool

Celtic nip Hearts for Scottish crown

LONDON (R) — Kenny Dalglish, who has won just about every honour as a player, collected his first trophy as a manager Saturday when Liverpool clinched the English First Division title by beating Chelsea 1-0 away from home.

The 34-year-old Scot also had the enormous personal satisfaction of scoring the priceless goal which gave Liverpool the title for the eighth time in 11 years and their 16th triumph overall.

It was also a day to remember for Dalglish's former club Glasgow Celtic, who snatched the Scottish championship from the grasp of Hearts of Midlothian, whose 30-match unbeaten run ended in a 2-0 defeat at Dundee.

Celtic, needing to win by three clear goals to pip Hearts on the narrowest of goal-difference margins, did that — and more — by thrashing St. Mirren 5-0.

Dalglish, whose deeds are legend on Merseyside, struck after 23 minutes at Chelsea to crown a memorable first year in management and he will have the opportunity to win the one medal which has eluded him on May 10 when Liverpool meet Everton in the FA Cup final.

Dalglish's killer goal ended the most exciting championship of recent years, for if they had failed to beat Chelsea both Everton, the defending champions, and West Ham could have overhauled them.

Though they have been making brave noises ever since, Everton probably accepted the inevitable last Wednesday when they lost at relegation-threatened Oxford. Typically, the outgoing champions fought to the bitter end, however, though their 6-1 thrashing of Southampton will have done little to ease the pain.

West Ham also bowed out gracefully with a 3-2 victory at West Bromwich Albion and their final game of the season at Everton on Monday will determine the runners-up spot.

At the other end of the table, League Cup winners Oxford became favourites to join Birmingham and West Bromwich in the Second Division next season when they lost 2-1 at home against Nottingham Forest.

With Norwich already assured of promotion from division two, Charlton and Wimbledon secured the necessary points to accompany them to the top flight.



Kenny Dalglish

Wimbledon, who joined the league only nine seasons ago, won 1-0 at Huddersfield while Charlton won by the odd-goal in a five-goal thriller at Carlisle.

Dalglish, the first ever player-manager to lead his club to the First Division title, was understandably jubilant at the final whistle.

"This isn't just my success," he stressed. "The trophy belongs to everyone at the club, players, coaching staff, the fans and, of course, Bob Paisley who has been at my elbow all season."

Asked if he felt any sympathy for Everton and West Ham —

both of whom would have made worthy champions — Dalglish asked with a wry smile: "Would they have had any sympathy for us?"

Should Liverpool complete the double by beating Everton in next Saturday's FA Cup final, he will achieve something which not even Paisley or Bill Shankly enjoyed during their trophy-laden reigns.

And although the World Cup will probably mark the end of Dalglish's glittering international career in the dark blue of Scotland, his performance against Chelsea suggests he will continue to fill two roles at Anfield next season.

Everton, however, will be desperately keen to stop their great rivals becoming the first club to complete the elusive double since Arsenal in 1971.

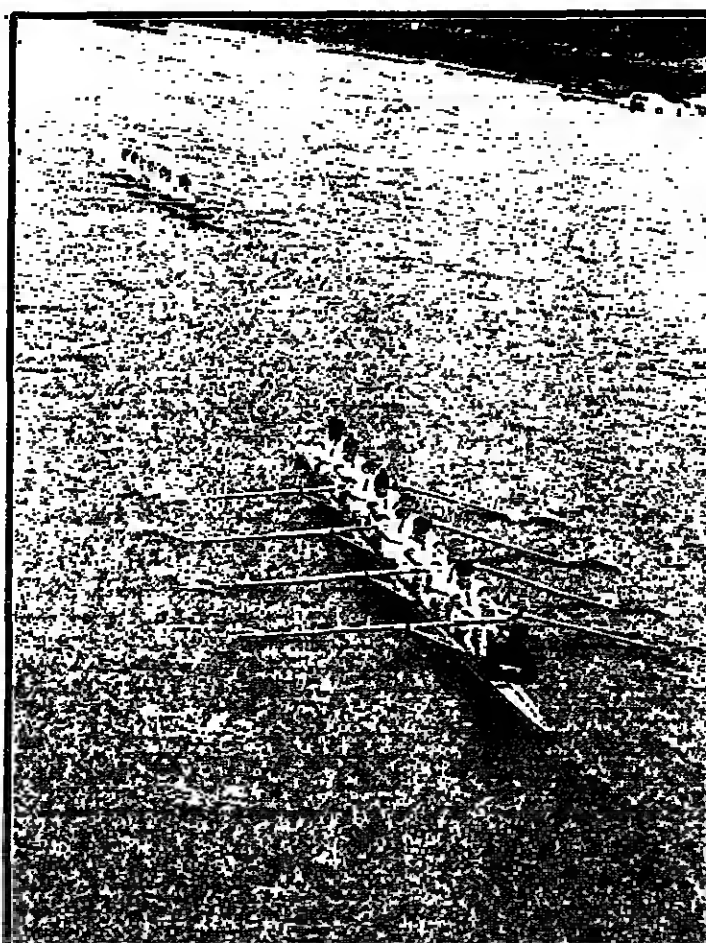
Glasgow Celtic fans apart, the whole of Scotland will feel a sense of disappointment at Hearts' failure to end their 26-year wait to regain the Scottish championship.

Needing only a draw at Dundee, they were just five minutes away from glory when Albert Kidd, ironically a former Hearts' player, struck twice to silence the huge Edinburgh travelling support.

Hearts, 200-1 outsiders at the start of the season last August, lost five of their first nine games before setting off on a Premier League record-breaking run which saw them stride to the top of the table.

As the challenges of Aberdeen and Dundee United faltered it was left to Celtic to keep up the chase and they ended the campaign in dramatic fashion with two goals apiece from Maurice Johnston and Brian McClair and a fifth by Scotland World Cup midfielder Paul McCarty.

Having seen the title stolen from their grasp, Hearts must now pick up the pieces before next Saturday when they meet Aberdeen in the Scottish Cup final at Hampden Park.



"Row, row, row your boat." The Cambridge University boat race crew (top) pull ahead of Oxford after passing beneath Hammerhead Bridge during the 132nd University Boat race on the river Thames in London. Cambridge dominated the race from the start and gained a seven length victory, defeating Oxford for their eleventh successive win. Conditions were against a record but the winning time of 17 minutes, 58 seconds is only been beaten five times in the history of the event. (London Pictures Service)

Moscow backs N.Korean call for divided Olympics

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Sports Chief Marat Gramov reaffirmed Saturday that Moscow wants the 1988 Summer Olympics to be split between North and South Korea.

He said the Soviet Union had made its position clear at last week's General Assembly in Seoul of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC).

Gramov said China, Czechoslovakia and other countries also supported the proposal to split the Games, which has been put forward by North Korea.

"Our point of view on this question is well known," Gramov told the official news agency TASS. "I

underline once again — we are for holding the Games in the North and the South."

"The problem of the 1988 Olympics is sharp and demands a cardinal decision in the interests not only of the Olympic movement but of the people living on the Korean peninsula."

"The decision to stage the Games in Seoul, taken four and a half years ago, artificially created problems for the Olympic movement."

"I must say that up to now there are those in the international sporting movement who are using different arguments, striving to turn a sporting question into political deadlock."

Contenders overcome delays at Clay Court Championship

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Jimmy Arias put an end to a long day for players chasing the U.S. Open Clay Court tennis championship when he beat Aaron Krickstein 6-4, 0-6, 6-4 Friday to reach the semifinals of the \$575,000 tournament.

The victory put the third-seeded Arias into the last four with the other top men's seeds, all of whom had to play two matches Friday because of postponements caused by persistent rains earlier in the week.

Joining Arias in the semifinals were top seed Thierry Tulasne of France, second seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador and fourth-seeded Martin Jaite of Argentina. Arias will play Tulasne, and Gomez will face Jaite for entry to the finals.

In the women's draw, unheralded Mercedes Paz of Argentina beat American Melissa Curney 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 to advance to the semifinals along with the tournament's highest seeded players.

Top seed Steffi Graf of West Germany beat fifth-seeded Terry Phelps of the U.S. 6-4, 6-3, second seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria ousted Regina Marsikova of Czechoslovakia 7-5, 6-2, and

third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina defeated seventh seed Robin White of the U.S. 6-1, 7-5.

The women's semifinals, which will be played prior to the men's final on Sunday rather than on Saturday as originally scheduled, will match Paz against Graf, and Sabatini against Maleeva, who won here two years ago.

Before Arias put the finishing touches on the day's play, Jaite beat Jakob Hasek of Switzerland 6-2, 6-4. Gomez ousted Mikael Pernfors of Sweden 6-3, 7-5 and Tulasne beat Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina, ranked 108 in the world, 6-0, 6-4.

Arias carved out his victory with service breaks in the ninth game of both the first and last sets.

The middle set was another matter and Arias explained later that playing two matches had taken its toll.

"The first set was really hard because of playing so much today," Arias said. "I mentally lost it for a while and gave him the edge and he grabbed his chance. I decided at 4-0 that I wasn't going to win the set and thought I'd act lackadaisical and play some loose points. I thought I'd fool him into thinking it would be an easy third set."

Dynamo gives boost to Soviets

By Derek Parr
Reuter

LYON, France — Dynamo Kiev gave the Soviet Union a big morale boost in the run-up to the World Cup finals with their superb win in the European Cup Winners' Cup final.

Seven members of the side which defeated Spain's Atletico Madrid 3-0 Friday night could be on World Cup duty in Mexico but the pace, skill and cohesion on show in Lyon would tempt anyone to pick the Ukrainian team wholesale.

From goalkeeper Viktor Chanchov to evergreen striker Oleg Blokhin, there was no weak link in the side which took the Cup Winners' Cup to Kiev for the second time in 11 years.

Chanchov distinguished himself in a brave diving save at the feet of Roberto and a sharply-struck free-kick from Jesus Landabura which he tipped over the bar.

Blokhin, sole survivor from the Kiev team which won the trophy in 1975, played with his left thigh

strapped. He scored nonetheless, just as he did in the 1975 final against Ferencvaros of Hungary — another 3-0 win for Dynamo.

Blokhin's goal was a prime example of Dynamo's team-work, the culmination of a sweet move which flicked from left to right and involved Vassili Rats, Igor Belonov, second half substitute Vadim Yevushenko and — unexpectedly out on the right — Blokhin.

Midfielder Rats, whose raids down the left flank were a constant menace to Atletico, laid on the first goal, while swift attacker Belonov exposed the Spanish defence time and again.

Five minutes from time, it seemed too flattering to Atletico that they trailed by only one goal — Aleksandr Zavarov's fifth minute header. But Blokhin's 85th minute strike and Yevushenko's effort three minutes later put the scoreline in a more proper perspective.

Solid in defence, swift and mobile in attack, Kiev will take some stopping in the European Cha-

mpions' Cup next year, though their finishing did not match their sublime approach-work.

"This season we had already developed at a high level against Rapid Vienna and Dukla Prague. It's good to have done it in the final," said team chief Valeri Lobanovski, who also led the team in 1975.

"Compared with the 1975 team we have perhaps less striking individuality but we have adapted ourselves to the demands of the modern game, giving precedence to swiftness of execution."

Atletico trainer Luis Aragones said Dynamo's early goal had inhibited his team's customary counter-attacking game. "But Dynamo were truly superior to us. They are a great team, formidable and sensational. The result is logical, no question."

For host country France, the Kiev performance gave notice of what the European Champions can expect in the first round in Mexico where the Soviet Union, along with Hungary and Canada, are their opponents.

Dancing Brave a winner by 3 lengths

NEWMARKET, England (R) — The 15-8 favourite Dancing Brave strode up the stiff Newmarket Hill Saturday to win the 2,000 Guineas with breathtaking ease to maintain his unbeaten record.

Once jockey Greville Starkey let the colt go with two furlongs remaining, the race was over and Dancing Brave ran out an impressive three-length winner from Green Desert with the fast-finishing Huntingdale in third.

Trainer Guy Harbison, who also trained the 1981 2,000 Guineas winner To-Agori-Mou, said after Dancing Brave had scooped the \$160,000 prize: "He proved he was a good horse and showed a lot of speed."

It was also a second 2,000 Guineas triumph for the owner, Saudi Arabian Prince Khalid Abdullah, who also won the Colts Classic with Known Fact.

The 15-horse race was really a sprint to the line from halfway, Starkey keeping the tough and consistent Dancing Brave in the first three throughout.

The famous British classic has been run at Newmarket since 1809 and Dancing Brave was the 72nd favourite to win the great race up the daunting straight mile at the headquarters of British Horse racing.

"Dancing Brave," a bay colt by Lyphard, started a hot favourite, after his impressive debut this sea-

son when he won the Craven Stakes here.

Green Desert, who last time out won the Free Handicap under top weight, plugged gamely on, but the 12-1 shot never looked like troubling Starkey and Dancing Brave.

Huntingdale, who went off at 6-1, finished fastest of all and may have been suffering from the lack of a pipe-opener race this year. He wrapped up his two-year-old career with a plucky victory in the

Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket.

Harwood, who has a bevy of good three-year-olds able to challenge for next month's Epsom Derby, said he was not sure what racing plans he now had for Dancing Brave, adding: "Today was always the day for me."

Irish challengers Toca Madera and Tate Gallery, the colt who almost tempted maestro Lester Piggott out of retirement for yet another big race challenge, were never in the hunt.

Dallas stalls Laker advance

NEW YORK (AP) — A three-point basket by Derek Harper with just three seconds left led the Dallas Mavericks to a 110-108 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers in National Basketball Association action Friday.

The Boston Celtics moved within one game of clinching their playoff series against the Atlanta Hawks, 111-107. In another game, Denver edged Houston 116-115.

Harper's shot came after he picked up the ball in a wild scramble. The Mavericks' victory halted, at least for one more night, the Lakers' drive toward their second straight NBA title. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored a game-high 28 points for Los Angeles.

Celtics 111, Hawks 107

Larry Bird had 28 points, nine rebounds and 12 assists to spark Boston, giving the Celtics a commanding 3-0 lead over the Hawks in their best-of-seven series. Dominique Wilkins finished with 38 points for the Hawks.

Nuggets 116, Rockets 115

Alex English scored 33 points and Bill Hanzlik added 21 as Denver edged Houston. Despite the loss, the Rockets lead the best-of-seven series 2-1 with game 4 to be played in Denver on Sunday. Akeem Olajuwon scored 31 points before fouling out with 1:18 left to pace the Rockets.

Hungary gears up for Formula One

By Ian Keresey
Reuter

LONDON — A now-tenuous link forged centuries ago will assure Keke Rosberg of a hero's welcome when the Formula One circus pitches camp in Budapest in August.

Rosberg is a Finn, the only Finn in Grand Prix racing, and Hungarians have had a close affinity with the Nordic nation since the days of Genghis Khan and before. Their ancestors were once related by blood.

Today, there remains a slight similarity in their languages — both incomprehensible to outsiders — but it will be reason enough for the Hungarians to regard Rosberg as an adopted son when they watch him compete in the first world drivers' championship race to be held in the Eastern Bloc.

The entire Formula One fraternity seems to be looking forward to the visit. Hungarians are certainly relishing the prospect of

witnessing high level, glamour motor racing during the weekend of August 8-10 — 80,000 tickets have already been sold at the brand new, 120,000-capacity "Hungaroring" circuit outside Budapest. A sell-out is anticipated.

The Hungarians have worked hard, hopefully learned fast, and say they are prepared to react quickly to any changes demanded by the formula One teams since a five-year contract was signed last September.

With the Grand Prix assured, an army of workers began to carve out a four-kilometre stretch of track in the Hungarian countryside about 20 kilometres from the capital.

The Hungarians have constantly sought advice from the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), the sport's controlling body, and the Formula One Constructors' Association (FOCA). They want to get everything right first time and not risk fines and impositions from FISA

once racing starts. Hungarian organisers say the circuit will be ready in early June and 85 per cent of the back-up facilities will be finished too.

It will be then that the Hungarians face their stiffest test — a final track inspection by FISA. Safety-minded ex-world champion Niki Lauda of Austria may be part of the FISA team.

Derek Ongaro, FISA's official track and safety inspector, has made two visits already. He liked what he saw and believes the highly-critical Formula One teams will agree with him.

Hungary's experience of international motor racing is limited, their first-hand experience of Formula One zero.

To overcome the problem, observers are taking careful notes at this year's championship races. A thousand questions have been asked, answers readily given.

Nothing has been left to chance in Hungary's \$19.6 million bid to promote tourism, show nationals what international motor sport is all about, and put the country on the Grand Prix map via worldwide television coverage.

Rally deaths spark safety doubts

PARIS (R) — The deaths of Finland's Henri Toivonen and his Italian co-driver Sergio Cresto in the Corsican Rally Friday have provoked a fresh storm of protest over safety standards and excessive engine power in the sport.

"Security at this rally is zero," claimed Toivonen's compatriot Markku Alen, who withdrew from the event Friday to mourn the deaths of the two Lancia teammates.

"All drivers want things to change at the Corsican Rally and other events with long timed stages," he said.

Toivonen and Cresto were killed when their car sped off a mountain road, hit a rock and burst into flames. Last year, the 1,603-kilometre event claimed the life of another Italian Lancia driver, Attilio Bettiga.

Under the headline "A Real

Drama in a False Rally," France's sporting newspaper L'Equipe called for a complete rethinking of the Corsican Rally, fifth event of the world championship, run almost entirely on tarmacked roads through hazardous mountain terrain.

It said the rally had become a dangerous anachronism whose course and safety precautions were incompatible with the high-speed power of the modern rally cars it described as "disguised formula one cars."

"The age of the little alpine saloons has gone and it is a golden rule that one must know how to adapt to the demands of one's time," the paper said.

Rally organiser Charles Leonard dismissed charges that the course was too fast for rallying, and condemned the press for singling out Corsica for special criticism.

NOTICE

Aqaba Railway Corporation
Supply of one high capacity diesel-powered
breakdown crane invitation for tender no.
11/86

Aqaba Railway Corporation invites sealed tenders for design, construction, supply and delivery including testing and commissioning of a 120 tonnes to 150 tonnes capacity diesel-powered road or road-cum-rail breakdown crane to be used mainly for clearing operations.

The offer for the breakdown crane including spares and accessories shall be submitted with and without financing proposal.

Interested parties may obtain further information, if required, from the office of Aqaba Railway Corporation, P.O. Box 50, Ma'an, Jordan (Telex No. 62225 ARC JO, Telephone 32114/32234, Ma'an) after purchasing the tender documents obtainable from the corporation's office at Ma'an or ARC's representative in liaison office in the Ministry of Transport, Amman, upon payment of non-refundable fee of JD 120/-.

All tenders must be accompanied by a tender bond of 5% of the contract value. The sealed tenders must be handed over to the Chief Clerk of ARC's office at Ma'an or in the Ministry of Transport office at Amman on or before 12 hrs. on 14th July, 1986.

Mardi Gatamin,
Director General

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U.S. pressures Japan, Europe on growth, dollar

TOKYO (R) — The United States piled economic pressure on Japan and Europe on the eve of the Tokyo summit, telling its allies to stoke a spending boom at home or watch the dollar slide even further.

The demand by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker sent a shudder through the Japanese and West German delegations.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone voiced concern to President Reagan about the rapid rise of the yen against the dollar. Senior Japanese and West German officials held talks on foreign exchange rates but refused to say what action they planned to take.

Mr. Baker emerged from a

30-minute meeting with Japan's Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and made it clear Washington was pressing on with its drive to turn Japan and West Germany into the locomotives of the world economy, the same strategy adopted at the 1978 Bonn summit.

Mr. Baker told reporters the only way to avert a future U.S. recession was "either further movement on the exchange rate side or additional, increased action by way of growth abroad."

West Germany and Japan are the only countries at the seven-nation summit starting Sunday with enough economic steam to respond to the U.S. call. They did

it in 1978 but regretted in and are determined not to do it again.

Mr. Baker said a forecast \$100 billion U.S. trade deficit after 1987 was a "politically unsustainable level" and without growth by U.S. allies America would sink into recession.

A U.S. official said Mr. Baker would press his colleagues at the two-day summit for economic action to prick the ballooning trade deficit once the impact of current exchange rate changes had run its course.

Mr. Nakasone, alarmed by the effect on his country's exports of a 32 per cent fall in the value of the dollar against the yen in seven months, told Mr. Reagan in an hour-long meeting the rise would have "serious consequences for the Japanese economy," a senior U.S. official said.

He added: "There are dif-

ferences of degree (between Nakasone and Reagan) in terms of the yen-dollar relationship. Our position is the market should decide, and this is what we've said."

Japanese officials said Mr. Nakasone suggested to Mr. Reagan that the summit should not discuss specific yen-dollar rates because it would stimulate what he called undesirable speculation.

Later, West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg and Mr. Takeshita held talks on exchange rates. A senior Japanese finance ministry official told reporters afterwards: "We (the Japanese side) were strongly told not to disclose what each minister said."

Mr. Baker acknowledged that exchange rates were "moving into a better configuration." But he also said "we prefer to concentrate, quite frankly, on finding

ways to enhance international economic cooperation... rather than talking about intervention."

Washington's efforts to strengthen formal agreements among the major industrial nations on economic cooperation were watered down during last month's semi-annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

West Germany has resisted pressure to adopt Mr. Baker's proposals and has shied away from U.S. calls for it to cut its interest rates again.

Japan has yet to prove it is serious about carrying out genuine economic reforms to boost domestic demand and encourage more imports.

Both are still smarting from their locomotive experience after 1978 which brought them inflation and recession.

Yamani sees serious energy crisis ahead

NEW YORK (R) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, said Saturday he could foresee an energy crisis more severe than the one in the 1970's.

Interviewed in Geneva by ABC Television News, Sheikh Yamani said that despite the beneficial effect of low oil prices, they should remain depressed for only a short time.

"If they remained low for five years, I would be happy," he said. "But after two or three years, prices will go up sharply."

Sheikh Yamani said a sharp increase in prices would not benefit the world economy as companies needed a stable oil price to plan

ahead. He said current low prices would create a major problem for the United States. "You are losing oil reserves, perhaps forever, as you cap wells and increase U.S. dependence on foreign oil," he said.

When asked by ABC at what level prices should stabilize, after moving between \$35 a barrel in 1981 and \$13 now, he said: "Before, it was too high, and we were against it. Now it is too low, and we are against it. We would like a price in between."

Sheikh Yamani disagreed with suggestions made earlier by Senator Lloyd Benson of Texas that low oil prices were part of a Saudi design to increase U.S. dependence on foreign supplies while destroying U.S. reserves.

"We are friendly to the U.S.," he said. "We are working to prevent disaster. Saudi Arabia has many political and financial interests in common with the United States."

Answering questions on the role of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in oil pricing, Sheikh Yamani said the high price for oil in the early 1980s was a result of OPEC policies.

OPEC's last meeting in Geneva broke up in April with a majority decision to set production at 16.3 million barrels per day (b/d) in the third quarter of the year, but the group was unable to reach a decision on how to allocate production among its members.

OPEC plans to meet again at the end of June in Yugoslavia to decide on the allocation of production among its members.

OPEC plans to meet again at the end of June in Yugoslavia to decide on the allocation of production.

On the possibility that the U.S.

might impose an oil import fee, Sheikh Yamani said such a fee would be a mistake.

"If you tax your friends in the area, like Mexico and Canada, you are not doing the right thing for them. If you tax imported oil, you will deprive your own businesses of a cheap oil and hurt their competitiveness against Japan and West Germany," he said.

Crude oil prices rise

Meanwhile a near record demand for petrol at the wholesale level and speculation that the Soviet nuclear plant disaster will cut its oil exports sent crude oil prices sharply higher.

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude, rose 95 cents to \$14.75 a barrel on the spot market.

Petrol prices rose their allowed two-cent a gallon (3.8 litres) limit on the New York Mercantile Exchange but later gave up some of their gains to close down 1.3 cents at 51.65 cents a gallon.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration said petrol demand for the four weeks ended on April 25 was up 4.4 per cent to 7.2 million barrels against the same period last year.

The figure is close to the record wholesale demand for petrol in the United States, reached in 1979.

North Sea Brent crude oil moved up 60 cents a barrel to \$13.50 for May cargoes.

Traders in Europe and the United States also said there was increasing speculation that the Soviet Union would be using more oil in place of nuclear power following the accident last weekend at Chernobyl in the Ukraine.

One trader with Soviet contracts said, however, that he has received no cancellations. "We're still trying to check on this, but maybe it's just speculation," the trader said.

The Soviet Union exports around 1.5 million barrels of oil a day, about the same amount as Libya.

Arab financiers open talks on investments

DOHA (R) — Delegates from Islamic banks and financial institutions in six Gulf Arab states opened a one-day meeting here Saturday on investment opportunities in industrial projects in the region.

The meeting is also attended by officials from the Doha-based Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting (GOIC) members — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

The president of Qatar Islamic Bank, Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al Mahmud, told the opening session that cooperation between Islamic banks and the GOIC would help economic and social development.

"Islamic banks have the funds necessary for investment... and the GOIC has the expertise. If we combine the two, we can achieve economic and social development... through setting up new industrial projects or by propping up existing ones," he said.

The president of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank, Sheikh Ahmad Mohammed Ali, said 36 per cent of the bank's financing operations over the past nine years, totalling \$4 billion, had involved the industrial sector.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime finds it advisable to use a considerable amount of care from early morning not to upset present conditions, but to operate within the status quo.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get old interests completed instead of getting into new ones at present. Tonight you can relax.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Know what your true aims are in life and don't do anything that can jeopardize your present security.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't permit an irate partner to spoil your day's activities, but you can see this person tonight after a cooling-off period.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't let any changes that are coming up in connection with your career upset you. They lead to greater success.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have some business to attend to, even if it is Sunday, so stick to it instead of running off for pleasure.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Exit early and avoid the tense situation at home and meet with associates to gain greater rapport for the future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have important work to handle, so don't run off on some ally tangent with a friend who wants you to do just that.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan how to make the most of your finest abilities and forget dull chores for a while. Try not to spend too much money today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Endeavor to please your family more today, so relegate personal wishes to the background for now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get into the world of activity and accomplish a good deal of a personal nature and forget that secret worry you have.

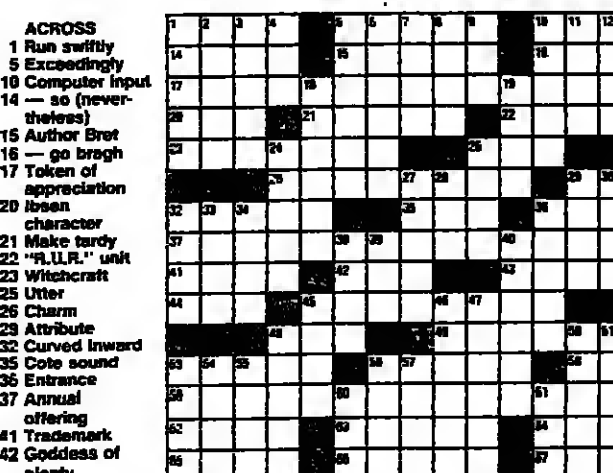
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Plan how to gain more prosperity in the future and don't be so gregarious today. You need financial advice.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Forget all those changes you want to make in business and pursue personal desires today. Retire early tonight.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will want to keep making changes every minute because of a sense of boredom. Teach early to be more consistent, and then the life can become successful either in business, the arts or technological fields.

THE Daily Crossword

by Samuel K. Flegner



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

7 Comic Johnson 8 Rub — (gloss) 9 Shipwrecked clock

10 Lure 11 Part of UAR 12 Joist brace

13 Dill herb 14 Make a list 15 Pipe —

16 Literary work 17 Wound mark 18 Chess

19 Pile 20 Gr. theater 21 Cigar and

22 Competent 23 Counter 24 Hankering

25 Dr. excess 26 Man of action 27 Becoming

28 Where this 29 Groove 30 Grid scores

31 Exclude 32 Just bent out 33 Brief attempt

34 Painter Joan 35 Soga 36 Oxford

37 Disenchantment 38 Grid scores 39 Exclude

40 47 Of the summit 48 Cape 49 Volter

50 Ponderosa's 51 Groove 52 Grid scores

53 Exclude 54 Painter Joan 55 Soga

56 Oxford 57 Disenchantment 58 Grid scores

59 Exclude 60 47 Of the summit 61 Cape

62 Volter 63 Ponderosa's 64 Groove

65 Grid scores 66 Exclude 67 Painter Joan

68 Soga 69 Oxford 70 Disenchantment

71 Grid scores 72 Exclude 73 Painter Joan

74 Soga 75 Oxford 76 Disenchantment

77 Grid scores 78 Exclude 79 Painter Joan

80 Soga 81 Oxford 82 Disenchantment

83 Grid scores 84 Exclude 85 Painter Joan

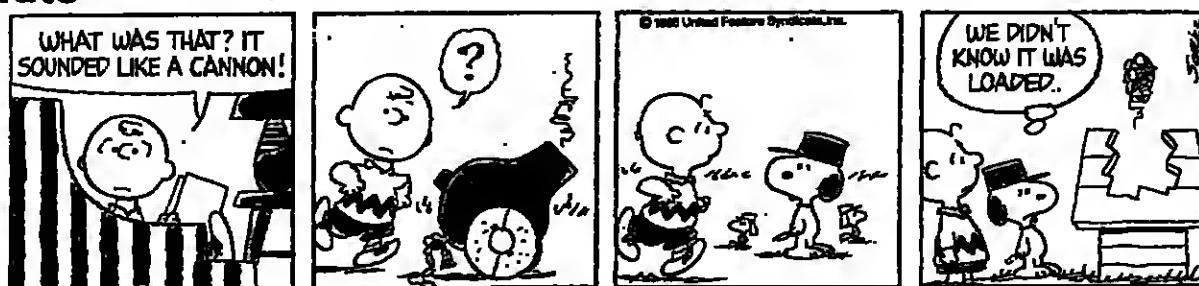
86 Soga 87 Oxford 88 Disenchantment

89 Grid scores 90 Exclude 91 Painter Joan

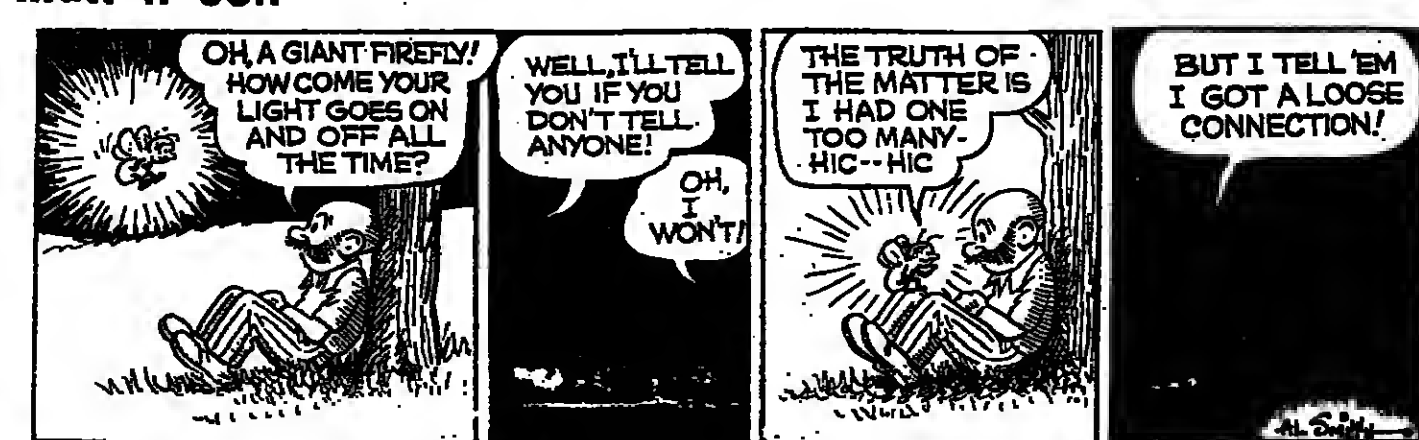
92 Soga 93 Oxford 94 Disenchantment

95 Grid scores 96 Exclude 97 Painter Joan

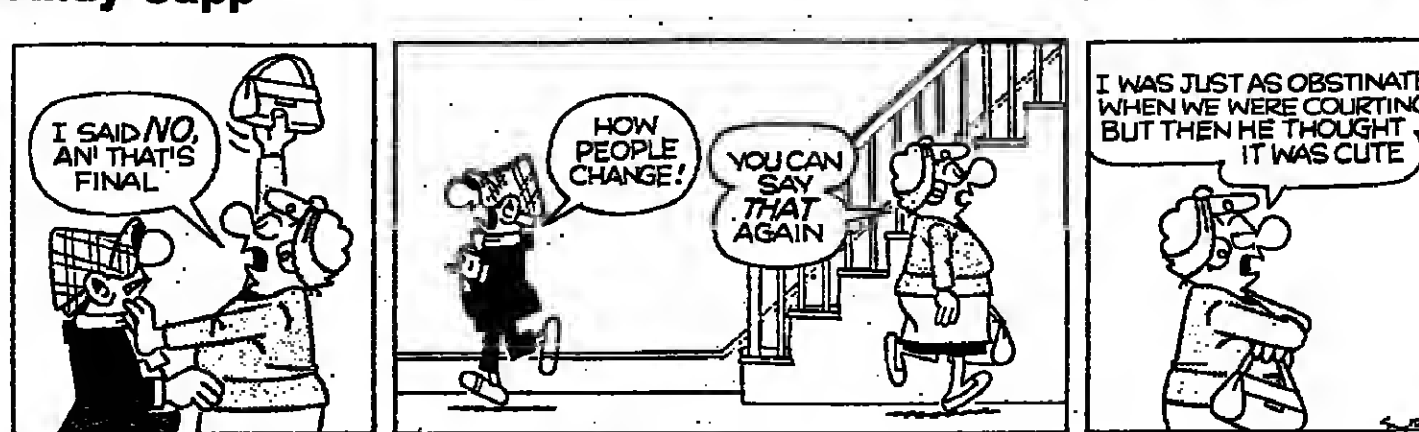
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I've got a meeting with our life insurance agent. Why don't you go shopping for a couple of hours!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VINGY

ILLEB

STAFLE

GROCED

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ARRAY FUSSY SULTRY RANCOR

Answer: The best way to make up — SAY YOU'RE SORRY

Reagan: Kremlin owes world explanation on nuclear mishap

TOKYO (Agencies) — President Reagan rebuked the Soviet Union Sunday, saying it had stubbornly refused to warn the world of the danger from its nuclear power plant disaster.

Mr. Reagan, in Tokyo for the economic summit of the leading industrial democracies — the United States, Japan, Canada, West Germany, France, Italy and Britain — said all Americans sympathized with those affected by the tragedy at Chernobyl.

"We stand ready, as do many nations, to assist in any way we can," he said in his regular weekly radio broadcast to the United States.

"But the contrast between the leaders of free nations meeting at the summit to deal openly with common concerns and the Soviet government with its secrecy and stubborn refusal to inform the international community of the common danger from this disaster, is stark and clear," he said.

"The Soviets' handling of this incident manifests a disregard for the legitimate concerns of people everywhere," Mr. Reagan said.

"The Soviets owe the world an explanation, a full accounting of what happened at Chernobyl and what is happening now is the least the world community has a right to expect."

A fire in the graphite core of a nuclear reactor at Chernobyl, about 50 kilometres from Kiev, has released radioactive particles over a large area of Europe.

U.S. officials said the accident happened last Friday but the first they knew of it was through a TASS report on Monday.

Moscow has turned down a U.S. offer of help.

U.S. officials have cast doubt on Soviet estimates of casualties. Moscow has said two people died and 197 were injured.

Secretary of State George Shultz told reporters "the impact on individual lives is much larger" according to information received by Washington. He declined to give figures or elaborate.

Mr. Reagan said nuclear accident "that results in contaminating a number of countries with radioactive material is not simply an internal matter."

He and other U.S. officials said the nuclear accident would be discussed at the summit.

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters the allies

"may initiate some move to ensure in future information in an accident like this is available."

As he had done in South East Asia, Mr. Reagan stressed the importance of free trade in his radio address, and said "it's up to the industrialised democracies to lead the way."

Mr. Reagan praised the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as "one of the most successful and admirable regional groupings in the entire world," whose economies have been spurred by a commitment to free trade and open markets.

During his pre-summit visit to Indonesia, Mr. Reagan said, he assured ASEAN foreign ministers that the United States would "continue to fight trade-killing protectionism and aggressively pursue open markets and trade that is free and fair."

Bhutto brings campaign to Karachi

KARACHI (R) — Tens of thousands of jubilant supporters chanted "Sunset For Zia, Sunrise For Benazir" Saturday as opposition leader Benazir Bhutto brought her campaign for fresh elections to Pakistan's largest city, Karachi.

The festive crowd, many of whom converged on Karachi airport in torchlight processions Friday night, released hundreds of pigeons and balloons when Ms. Bhutto arrived to address her first mass rally here since returning from European exile on April 10.

Some supporters held up a khaki-clad effigy of Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, the man Ms. Bhutto wants to drive out of office, and beat it in a mockery of the flogging punishments his government has meted out to its critics.

Police and journalists found it impossible to estimate accurately the crowd, which choked the road from the airport for at least the

few kilometres they could see.

Ms. Bhutto, 32, arrived amid a mounting official campaign to discredit her whirlwind "caravan for change" and spread fears of political repression if she came to power.

By contrast, she gave Friday one of her most conciliatory press conferences to date, appearing to drop a key opposition demand — revival of her father's 1973 constitution — in return for immediate polls.

Ms. Bhutto is the daughter of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto whom Gen. Zia overthrew in 1977 and later saw hanged.

She wants Gen. Zia to make way for fresh polls this autumn to replace the controlled elections held last year under martial law for the national and provincial assemblies.

As rose petals showered down on her, Ms. Bhutto waved and saluted the crowd from atop a large

NATO study shows Soviet arms sales exceed aid

BRUSSELS (R) — The Soviet Bloc's arms sales to non-Communist developing countries dwarf its economic aid to those states, according to a new NATO study.

The annual report on Warsaw Pact economic ties with the Third World says arms sales to non-Communist countries rose from \$4.2 billion in 1981 to \$7.1 billion in 1984, the last year for which figures are available.

The Eastern bloc's development assistance to the same countries in 1984 was \$635 million, it says.

"The Kremlin's penetration in the non-Communist developing countries... has become more and

more dependent on Soviet military influence, the recourse to Cuban proxies, and massive arms shipments," says the report, released by the West German NATO mission.

The ratio of arms to aid is almost exactly the opposite in the Warsaw Pact's ties with Communist developing countries such as Cuba, Vietnam and Mongolia.

These states received a total of \$6.8 billion in economic aid and trade subsidies in 1984 while buying only \$738 million worth of arms, according to the study.

The NATO experts forecast that the trends are likely to continue under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKJ98 ♣K7 ♢Q963 ♠54
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What action do you take?

Q2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ98 ♣QJ987 ♢AK106
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♦ Pass
What action do you take?

Q3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q984 ♢A10983 ♠AQ9
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What action do you take?

Q4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK98 ♣A9 ♢J5 ♠AK1092
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ10 ♣732 ♢AK76 ♠Q93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠5 ♣Q954 ♢AQ9 ♠A10543
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?

IBM NAMES AUTHORISED REMARKETER IN JORDAN

IBM World Trade Europe/Middle East/Africa Corporation has announced an increase in the marketing responsibilities of

General Computers and Electronics Company

currently an IBM authorised dealer for the IBM Personal Computer in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

In addition to its dealership activities, General Computer and Electronics is now serving as an IBM Authorised Remarketer for IBM S/36 and IBM 4361 Computers, IBM Information Display Systems, as well as a number of related software products.

Maintenance services for IBM data processing products will continue to be provided by the IBM Branch Office in Amman.

In addition, IBM typewriters will continue to be marketed and serviced by the IBM authorised dealer in Amman, Mouasher Cousins Company.

S. Korean clashes stop rally

INCHON, South Korea (R) — Thousands of South Korean students and workers clashed with police Saturday setting fire to offices of President Chun Doo Hwan's ruling party and forcing cancellation of a big opposition rally.

Chanting "Down With Military Dictatorship," "Go Away U.S. and Japanese Imperialists" and "Achieve Democracy," students threw stones and petrol bombs at police drawn up near a public hall in this Western port city. Police retaliated with tear gas.

Inside the hall, about 2,500 people waited for more than three hours for leaders of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), including party President Lee Min-Woo and leading dissident Kim Young-Sam.

News finally came that the leaders were unable to get through a massive police cordon sealing off all routes to the rally site and that the meeting was postponed indefinitely.

The rally would have been the seventh the opposition party had staged in cities across South Korea in recent weeks in a campaign for constitutional reforms.

Witnesses said a group of militant students set fire to local offices of Mr. Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) as well as a police van and a civilian car.

While rally organisers said several tens of thousands were inside the Citizens' Hall, which is run by the Inchon City Government, witnesses and independent observers put the number of demonstrators at between 7,000 and 10,000.

The witnesses said some demonstrators were arrested but exact figures were not available.

Police sources said several policemen were seized and beaten by the protesters. Many were injured by missiles hurled by the demonstrators, they said.

The scheduled opposition gathering was aimed at helping an NKDP campaign to collect 10 million signatures on a petition to urge Mr. Chun to permit direct presidential polls next year.

Leaders resign as Sikh gunmen kill 3 in Punjab

AMRITSAR, India (R) — More political leaders resigned from Punjab state's ruling Akali Dal Party and extremists kept up revenge killings following a security raid on the Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

Two Punjab ministers and two top party officials who quit the day after the raid, were joined by three more party leaders in a spreading revolt against moderate Sikh leader Surjit Singh Barnala, Punjab's chief minister and head of the party.

Police said that in extremist protests against Wednesday's raid, three people were gunned down Friday night taking the death toll in revenge killings to ten.

Mr. Barnala ordered the raid to flush out extremists fighting for a separate nation in Punjab, where most of India's 13 million Sikhs live.

In the latest killings two people were shot dead Friday night in Gurdaspur district bordering Pakistan and a third man was killed at Tarn Taran near Amritsar, site of the Golden Temple.

Akali Dal officials who announced their resignations Saturday were Surjan Sant Tekhedar, vice-president, Manjit Singh, general secretary, and Satwant Singh Mohi, a state member of parliament.

In his letter of resignation to Mr. Barnala, Manjit Singh said: "You have no right to remain as party chief since you went against the policies of the Akali Dal."

The first signs of the revolt came when Punjab's education and agriculture ministers and two members of the party's executive committee resigned.

They complained that Mr. Barnala ordered the raid without consulting them.

Mr. Barnala has said he carried out the wishes of the Sikh community in ordering the raid.

2,600-year old duke's tomb opened

PEKING (AP) — More than 2,000 relics were unearthed from the 2,600-year-old tomb of a wealthy duke, the largest burial chamber found in China this century, the Xinhua News Agency said Saturday.

The chamber is one of 18 dukes' tombs found in Fengxiang county in the northern province of Shaanxi. The dukes lived in the state of Chu during the spring and autumn period (770-476 B.C.) of the Chou Dynasty.

The 100-kilogramme top panel of the coffin chamber, which took archaeologists 10 years to uncover, was removed Friday. Xinhua said. Among the relics found is a bronze stele bearing an inscription of 16 ancient seal characters describing a ruler of the Chu state as a descendant of Gao Ying. Gao Ying was a great-grandson of a Xuan Yuan, who was believed to be a leader of the ancient Hua Xia nationality, the ancestors of the Han Chinese who make up most of China's current citizens.

The find is evidence that the people of the state of Chu were Han Chinese, not a minority from the Western part of China, as some scholars have thought. Xinhua said.

Thatcher turns down offer to step into N. Korea

PANMUNJOM TRUCE VILLAGE, Korea (R) — Margaret Thatcher, standing at the border between the two Koreas on Saturday, firmly declined a U.S. army corporal's invitation to step into the communist north.

"No, I'm much happier here," the staunchly anti-communist British prime minister told Corporal Michael Ayers, who is attached to United Nations Command (UNC) forces guarding the tense frontier just 40 kilometres from the South Korean capital Seoul.

Cpl. Ayers was delegated by UN Commander-in-Chief General William L. Westmoreland, chief of the 40,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, to brief Mrs. Thatcher on the military situation in a building straddling the demarcation line drawn at the end of the 1950-53 Korean war.

He told Mrs. Thatcher a cluster of microphone cords running across a green baize-covered negotiating table delineated the actual border and invited the prime minister to walk round the table into North Korea.

It was the only place, he told her, where people could cross the 241-kilometre long demarcation line without sparking an international incident.

The whole scene was watched through the window by three North Korean soldiers, one of whom constantly photographed Mrs. Thatcher and her party.

The officer in charge nodded with a smile when a reporter asked him if he knew who Mrs. Thatcher was.

Mrs. Thatcher, who arrived in Seoul Friday night for a 36-hour visit to South Korea on her way to the seven-nation summit in Tokyo, was asked by reporters for her impressions after hearing of the diplomatic and military wrangling still going on in Panmunjom 33 years after the armistice.

"I think liberty is a jolly detailed business," she said, "and I'm jolly thankful for the people who do it."

Mrs. Thatcher, the first British leader to come to South Korea, flew with General Llewellyn to Panmunjom — set in a four-kilometre wide demilitarised zone (DMZ) aboard a U.S. Chinook military helicopter.

Zeffirelli convicted of currency offences

ROME (R) — A Rome court has sentenced Italian film director Franco Zeffirelli to one year's imprisonment and fines totalling 850 million lire (\$566,000) for contravening foreign exchange regulations. The director's lawyer, Gianrico Pittaluga, said he would appeal against the verdict and that Zeffirelli, 63, would not serve any sentence pending the outcome of the appeal.

Zeffirelli, charged under his real name of Gianfranco Corsi, was accused of illegally amassing capital abroad and holding a foreign currency account with a Rome bank between 1982 and 1985. He was also accused of failing to lodge 600 million lire (\$400,000) with the Italian Exchange Office as countervalue to his dollar-denominated bank account.

Prosecution lawyers argued that Zeffirelli, who officially became a resident of Tunisia in the late 1970s, had continued to work and live largely in Italy and was consequently subject to Italian exchange regulations. Zeffirelli's films include Romeo And Juliet, Brother Sun Sister Moon, and Jesus Of Nazareth.

U.S. police take hijacker into custody

HILLSBORO, Oregon (AP) — A hijacker who seized a commuter airplane carrying 11 other passengers and held them briefly after the plane landed at Hillsboro airport was taken into custody early Saturday, authorities said.

The episode ended shortly before 2 a.m. (0600 GMT), after the passengers and co-pilot were released and the pilot escaped.

Spokeswoman Sherre Calouri of the Washington County Sheriff's Department said it was not immediately known whether the hijacker surrendered or was captured. He was being taken to a hospital, she said, although it wasn't known whether he was injured.

Four passengers were released, followed by the other seven and the plane's co-pilot about 35 minutes later as FBI agents negotiated with the hijacker.

Ms. Calouri said the hijacker, who was believed to have a gun, agreed to allow the passengers and co-pilot to leave when he heard fuel flowing into the plane's tanks.

After the pilot fled, the hijacker threatened to blow up the plane, Ms. Calouri said.

She said the man had boarded with a bottle of liquor with him. She quoted him as saying "personal problems" had led him to hijack the plane.

She said the hijacker had demanded water, fuel for the airplane and four parachutes, but none of the demands had been met.

"The FBI is making an effort to determine who it might be," she said of the hijacker.

The plane was sitting on the runway with its lights on about 300 metres from the airport terminal.

The pilot notified the Portland International tower of the hijacking about 10:20 p.m. Friday (0516 GMT). The plane was supposed to land at Portland International, but instead landed at Hillsboro.

Ms. Calouri said she did not know why the plane landed in Hillsboro.

Horizon Air is a commuter airline serving several Pacific north west cities.

Treasure trove auctioned for \$15m

AMSTERDAM (R) — A captain who salvaged a huge hoard of antique Chinese porcelain and gold from the bottom of the South China Sea saw his haul reach \$15 million after a week-long auction. The result was almost four times experts' forecasts for the 150,000 items of China and 125 gold bars taken from the wreck of a Dutch East India Company ship which went down in 1752 on a voyage from China to Europe.

British-born Michael Hatcher, captain of the salvage team, said the treasure fetched such prices because it was from a known wreck with a "pedigree." "Lots of people got swept up in the story. They were queuing up to take the stuff away," he said.

Auctioneer Harts Nijstad, chairman of Christie's Amsterdam, told bidders as he brought down the hammer on the last lot — an erotic white-glazed figure of a reclining lady — the sale was the biggest in a single-owner auction of decorative art. Highlights of the sale included a 144-piece porcelain dinner service, which went for \$327,000, a world record. The 125 small gold ingots fetched \$1.8 million.

Afghan rebel leader rejects peace talks

KARACHI (R) — A prominent guerrilla leader has charged that Pakistan might sell out Afghanistan's Muslim rebels to win a peace deal with the Communist government in Kabul.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, head of the fundamentalist Hezb-I-Islami rebel party, said Friday United Nations-sponsored peace talks could only bring a partial solution to the seven-year war in his country.

The talks, which Pakistan and Afghanistan are due to resume in Geneva on Monday, were unacceptable and served as a diversion while Soviet troops attacked the rebels, he said.

"Pakistan may be satisfied with the withdrawal of Soviet forces and the departure of the refugees (from Pakistan)," Hekmatyar said, referring to the pullout of about 115,000 Soviet troops the two sides will begin discussing next week.

"But our nation and the Mujahideen (Islamic warriors) will never accept this. They started their struggle against the puppet government before the Russians invaded our country."

"So far, each of these rounds since 1982 has been parallel with savage Russian offensives against our people," he said.

The radical Islamic leader's statement echoed criticism by Jean Kirkpatrick, Washington's former U.N. ambassador, that the Geneva talks excluded the rebels and made a troop withdrawal dependent on an end to outside arms supplies to the guerrillas.

Testifying at a congressional

Gorilla rendezvous set by computer

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Carlos is a "mellow fellow," but zoo officials are expecting big things from him after a gorilla computer dating service fixed him up with Hope, a North Carolina female. If all goes as planned, Carlos, a 16-year-old father of two, will sire two more offspring at the North Carolina zoo in Asheville, said Charles Wilson, Memphis Zoo director. "He's a proven breeder, and he's in his prime. Male gorillas have a high level of fertility, which is why Carlos is what you call good property."

"We're looking forward to great things from Carlos," said Les Schobert, a curator for the Asheville Zoo, where Carlos will be quarantined for about a month before being introduced to Hope. He left Memphis on Thursday. If a romance develops between the two lowland gorillas, the date could last two years, Wilson said.

Witness tells of executions in Grenada coup trial

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (R) — Former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and close associates were lined up against a wall and shot dead by three soldiers during a Marxist palace coup on Oct. 19, 1983, Grenada's high court was told.

Prosecution witness Walter Charles, a former soldier in the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA), said Mr. Bishop was shot by Lt. Callistus Bernard while the others were sprayed with bullets fired by Comos Richardson and Vincent Joseph.

The three are among 19 former soldiers and leftist leaders charged with overthrowing Mr. Bishop's New Jewel Movement in the coup, during which more than 100 Grenadians were killed.

The coup prompted the U.S.-led invasion six days later which paved the way for the restoration of democracy in this former British colony.

Charles told the court the shooting took place despite pleas from Education Minister Jacqueline Creft that she was pregnant. She had already had one child for Mr. Bishop, Vladimir, before Mr. Bishop's wife left for Canada with their two children, Nadia and John.

Only defendant Raeburn Nelson was in court to hear the evidence. The other 17 were ordered out of court again by Acting Chief Justice Denis Byron for disrupting proceedings, while Fabian Gabriel has won a conditional pardon for offering to turn state's evidence.

Charles, who was the first witness to describe the slayings of Mr. Bishop and his colleagues, said they were led up to the top square at Fort Rupert by armed soldiers after the fort had been overrun by troops loyal to a military junta.

Mr. Bishop had taken refuge there after being released from house arrest by thousands of cheering supporters. He was accompanied by Creft, Foreign Minister Union Whitehead, Housing Minister Norris Bain and four other colleagues.

He said Mr. Bishop was standing about four to five feet (1.2 to 1.5 metres) in front of his colleagues when Callistus Bernard gave the order to Richardson and Joseph to shoot.

Bernard shot Mr. Bishop in the head and after he fell to the ground the two other soldiers, perched on a wall overlooking the top square, opened up with machine guns at the victims.

Charles said he went to the bottom square where he saw four dead bodies, including that of a minister whose name he could not remember.

Before the executions, Charles said he heard Maj. Chris Stroude, one of the defendants, tell soldiers that Mr. Bishop had planned to attack them. Maj. Stroude later led Mr. Bishop and the others to the top square.

By then, two armoured cars had opened fire on crowds of Bishop supporters at the fort. Charles said people began running and some jumped over a wall overlooking a precipice.

After the executions, Charles said, he saw former army Chief of Staff Einstein Louison, a Bishop supporter, being pursued by another soldier. Louison jumped off a high wall of the fort holding two guns.

Charles was due to return to the witness stand on Monday when the trial resumed.